

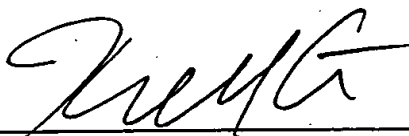
REMARKS

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$48.00 for the additional claims fee. If any additional fees are required please charge that fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1060.

The claims being added by this amendment are copied from, and identical to, Claims 1-21 of U.S. Patent 5,857,016, issued January 5, 1999, to Timothy Edward Jedlicka. The claims are supported by the Applicant's specification, and the application has a priority date earlier than the '016 patent.

Applicant notes that the filing receipt for the parent application does not properly indicate the priority of the present application, which was properly declared. A separate request to correct such receipt is being filed for that file.

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

CORRECTED
SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

BE IT KNOWN that I, **DANIEL A. HENDERSON**, have invented new and useful improvements in a

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IMPROVED ~~PAGING RECEIVER~~
PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES AND SYSTEMS

of which the following is a specification:

1 CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

2
3 This Application claims the benefit of the filing date under 35 USC §§119 and/or
4 120, and 37 CFR §§1.60 and 1.78 to the following U.S. and U.S. provisional patent
5 applications, and is a continuation-in-part of the U.S. patent application:
6

7 1. U.S. provisional patent application serial no. 60/005,029, filed on October
8 6, 1995, entitled "Method and Apparatus for Improved Paging Receiver and System";
9

10 2. U.S. non-provisional patent application serial no. 08/726,024, filed on
11 October 4, 1996, entitled "Method and Apparatus for Improved Paging Receiver
12 and System"; and
13

14 ~~3. 2.~~ U.S. patent application serial no. 08/177,851, filed on January 5, 1994,
15 entitled "Method and Apparatus for Enhancing the Efficient Communication of
16 Information in an Alphanumeric Paging Network," now U.S. Patent no. 6,278,862.
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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention:

This invention relates in general to communications systems and in particular to **wireless** communications systems which include paging devices.

2. Description of the Prior Art:

Numerous companies are attempting to improve the manner in which people communication over wireless systems. The present invention addresses many deficiencies in the prior art systems.

The following discussion is specifically related to stored voice paging receivers and paging systems.

In stored voice paging receivers it is possible to receive voice messages which may be heard by a called party. In the prior art systems is shown a method in which voice messages may be stored at a paging center from a calling party and then the message may be transmitted to a paging receiver. These systems typically include pager ID control data along with any voice message for playback through a codec unit at the paging receiver. The codec converts the data received into an audio reproduction of the calling party's voice message that may be heard from a speaker or sound output device in the paging receiver.

Such devices are useful in that the called party may have a voice message delivered to them rather than having to call in to a message center or voice mail center.

However, in part, the popularity of such devices has been limited in that there is no means for preventing other people to whom messages are not

1 intended from hearing voice messages of a personal or confidential nature if the
2 message is replayed by the recipient in their presence.
3

4 It is difficult for the called party to ascertain the identity of the calling party
5 prior to playing the message received to know who is calling prior to
6 broadcasting the message in the presence of others in the nearby area. To review
7 a stored message the user was required to press play and the voice message was
8 announced from an integrated speaker in a communication device. This was
9 impractical for a called party that was engaged in a meeting that wanted to
10 discreetly listen to an urgent message without having to leave or have other
11 persons hear the message. In addition the previous stored voice paging receivers
12 gave no visual indication of who was calling.
13

14 The previous stored voice paging receivers stored messages received
15 based on the time the messages were received. This required that the messages
16 had to be reviewed in the same order regardless of the possibility that an urgent
17 message may not be heard until the very end of message review. This was very
18 inconvenient if the message required a prompt reply from the called party. In US
19 5,153,579 issued to Bennett et al. is described a method of fast forwarding
20 through messages stored chronologically. This method, though useful, requires a
21 user to sequentially listen to parts of all messages preceding a possible urgent
22 message received.
23

24 In addition, in stored voice paging receivers there is no ability to sort
25 through or organize voice messages except to listen to them sequentially. This
26 can be inconvenient for the called communicant as they may want to skip certain
27 messages until later, but must listen to at least part of all of each message as the
28 voice data cannot be displayed.
29
30

1 On particular problem with conventional paging systems using message
2 center devices is the requirement that a caller must manually enter their call back
3 telephone number. One such example of a manual entry system is disclosed fully
4 in US 4,172,969 issued to Levine et al, US 4,072,824 issued to Phillips, and also
5 US 4,103,107 issued to D'Amico et al. This can be cumbersome particularly if the
6 calling party wishes to also leave a voice message or send some other message
7 data such as a facsimile. In addition it is especially difficult for a calling party to
8 enter an alphanumeric message during manual entry as a great majority of
9 communications over the PSTN originate from devices with standard numeric
10 keypads that generate DTMF signals. One invention which attempts to address
11 the problem of alphanumeric entry by a telephone set is US 4,918,721 issued to
12 Hashimoto. However such an approach is still cumbersome to use and is time
13 consuming for the calling party. As well, the longer it takes for a calling party to
14 enter caller identifying information, the less time a message center at the called
15 party location is available to accept other calls. The inventive concepts herein
16 attempt to resolve these and other problems.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present application is directed to the following inventive concepts:

1. Voice Paging System and Device ~~which~~ that utilizes ~~CIP~~ caller ID (CID) from an originating central office as textual identifying data and generates prestored audio alert prior to annunciation of a corresponding voice message from calling party. See Figure 4a. CID could be fax header as in Figures 6a and 6b.

2. Alternate embodiment of the above where the entry of PIN is required to play back messages from a selected group of callers or for messages of confidential nature. See Figure 4b.

3. Alternate embodiment of the above where DTMF audio signals and voice message is received. The device has a DTMF tone decoder generates corresponding textual data record and decoded digits for display. A text to speech synthesis can be achieved prior to annunciation of message. In another embodiment, the received DTMF signals could be used to generate call back dial signals. See Figure 4c.

4. Alternate embodiment of the above where the CID data could be applied to text to speech unit to annunciate CID data prior to the received voice message. See Figure 4d.

5. Alternate embodiment where device has three modes of operation, namely, announce, silent and broadcast mode.

6. Alternate embodiment where device has sound input means to ack-back to caller. See Figure 7b. The sound input means is used to prestore voice response messages for ack-back which is an improvement over prior art. See Figure 7a.

1
2 Another object is to provide an improved stored voice communication
3 device that includes a method of transmitting voice message data with source
4 identifier information.

5
6 Another improvement is to provide a more efficient method of
7 fastforwarding and reversing through messages received in such a device than
8 in the prior art.
9

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The novel features believed characteristic of the invention are set forth in the appended claims. The invention itself, however, as well as a preferred mode of use, further objectives and advantages thereof, will best be understood by reference to the following detailed description of an illustrative embodiment when read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1a shows the prior art stored voice paging receiver.

Figure 1b shows an improved stored voice paging receiver with a **test text**-to-speech means and a display input/output **means** to annunciate and/or display caller identification data associated with a particular voice message received.

Figure 1c shows an improved stored voice paging receiver with a sound input **means**, a coincidence detector, a display output **means**, a detachable input **means**, and a DTMF tone decoder **means**.

Figure 1d shows an improved non-display autodialing type paging receiver with text to speech generator and DTMF tone decoder.

Figure 2a shows a block diagram of a paging system described herein that has a messaging center at the called party office.

Figure 2b shows a block diagram of a paging system described herein, that has a messaging center such as a voice mail center at the telephone office.

Figure 3a shows the prior art method of transmitting a voice message to a stored voice paging receiver.

1 Figure 3b shows an improved method of transmitting a voice message to a
2 stored voice paging receiver along with caller identifying data according to one
3 embodiment of the invention.
4

5 Figure 4a is a flowchart of one embodiment of the invention in which caller id data
6 is applied to a coincidence detector and display within a stored voice paging receiver to
7 generate a prestored audio alert signal.
8

9 Figure 4b is a flowchart of one embodiment of the invention in which caller id and
10 additional data entered by the caller using DTMF entry is sent with a voice message to a
11 stored voice paging receiver with a text to speech alerting means and/or display means.
12

13 Figure 4c is a flowchart of one embodiment of the invention in which canned
14 display alerts can be generated and improved dial signal generation can be employed in
15 an improved stored voice pager.
16

17 Figure 4d is a flowchart of another embodiment of the invention.
18

19 Figure 4e is a flowchart of one embodiment of the invention in which a stored
20 voice paging receiver can have various modes for operation.
21

22 Figure 5a shows a sample data record that can be prestored and contained
23 within a personal communication device.
24

25 Figure 5b shows a sample display of message notifications received at a
26 personal communication device.
27

28 Figure 5c shows a memory address register within a personal communicator
29 device which stores caller id and voice message data received.
30

1 Figures 6a and 6b are block diagrams of ~~receiving~~ received fax header
2 information ~~and transmitting~~ transmitt d as caller identifying information.

3
4 Figures 7a and 7b show improved ACK-BACK stored voice devices.

5
6 Figures 8a shows a data connection between a personal computer and
7 paging receiver suitable for transfer of sound files to or from a portabl
8 communication device. Figure 8b shows one preferred embodiment of a stored
9 sound file that can be transferred to a portable communication device.

10
11 Figures 9a and 9b depict improved ACK-BACK systems adapted to the
12 inventions herein.

13
14 Figure 10 is a block diagram of a system utilizing a dialing pager receiver
15 adapted to the invention.

16
17 Figure 11 depicts a prior art telephone communication network;

18
19 Figures 12a, 12b and 12c depict schematically caller-identification
20 information which is transmitted over a telephone network.

21
22 Figure 13 depicts a numeric paging network in accordance with th
23 embodiment of the invention, which is coupled to a conventional telephone
24 network.

25
26 Figure 14 depicts an alphanumeric paging network in accordance with the
27 embodiment of the invention, which is coupled with a conventional telephon
28 network.

1 Figure 15 depicts a portion of a database which attributes textual messages
2 to particular numeric or alphanumeric codes.

3
4 Figure 16 depicts a memory buffer which stores paging requests received
5 or transmitted to a portable communication device.

6
7 Figures 17, 18, 19a, 19b and 19c depict alternative portable communication
8 devices in accordance with the embodiment of the invention.

9
10 Figure 20 depicts in block diagram form the operational blocks of a
11 portable communication device in accordance with the embodiment of the
12 invention.

13
14 Figure 21 depicts in flowchart form the process of engaging a paging
15 network via a telephone network.

16
17 Figure 22 depicts a database with a plurality of data fields which identify
18 information which pertains to potential communicants, and which is maintained in
19 memory within the portable communication device.

20
21 Figures 23, 24, 25 and 26 depict alternative configurations of the portable
22 communication device in accordance with alternative embodiments of the
23 invention.

24
25 Figure 27 is a block diagram representation of the hardware and software
26 components which are utilized to exchange data between a computing device and
27 the portable communication device in accordance with the embodiment of the
28 invention.

1 Figure 28 depicts yet another configuration of the components which
2 cooperate to transmit data between a computing device and the portable
3 communication device.

4
5 Figures 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33 depict in block diagram, schematic, and
6 flowchart form, a technique for developing a database with information pertaining
7 to potential communicants for utilization in the portable communication device.
8

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

~~One particular problem with conventional paging systems using message center devices is the requirement that a caller must manually enter their call back telephone number. One such example of a manual entry system is disclosed fully in US 4,172,969 issued to Levine et al, US 4,072,824 issued to Phillips, and also US 4,103,107 issued to D'Amico et al. This can be cumbersome particularly if the calling party wishes to also leave a voice message or send some other message data such as a facsimile. In addition it is especially difficult for a calling party to enter an alphanumeric message during manual entry as a great majority of communications over the PSTN originate from devices with standard numeric keypads that generate DTMF signals. One invention which attempts to address the problem of alphanumeric entry by a telephone set is US 4,918,721 issued to Hashimoto. However such an approach is still cumbersome to use and is time consuming for the calling party. As well, the longer it takes for a calling party to enter caller identifying information, the less time a message center at the called party location is available to accept other calls. This invention attempts to resolve these and other problems.~~

~~In addition, in stored voice paging receivers there is no ability to sort through or organize voice messages except to listen to them sequentially. This can be inconvenient for the called communicant as they may want to skip certain messages until later, but must listen to at least part of all of each message as the voice data cannot be displayed. This invention attempts to address this problem as well.~~ The automatic transmission of caller id or ANI data from the PSTN to a message center, for storage and retransmission along with optional other data to a paging center to be received in a personal communicator is ~~also addressed in this invention~~. Other advantages and objects will be realized by the description ~~which that~~ follows.

1 Figure 1a shows a prior art stored voice paging receiver without a display **means**
2 that enables a called party to fast forward and reverse through voice messages
3 received. Though useful, this type of device requires the called party to listen to part of
4 each message received before determining which message to listen to. The invention
5 described herein teaches how an improved stored voice paging receiver can include a
6 display that shows the identity of the callers before the voice message is selected and
7 heard by the called party.

8
9 In Figure 1b is shown one embodiment **which that** may receive textual caller
10 identifying data and display the data on a display **means**. Additionally, received textual
11 caller identifying data can be applied to a text to speech synthesis section for
12 annunciation prior to the replay of a voice message. Alternatively, caller identifying
13 information may be received in an audible voice form and played prior to the replay of a
14 voice message.

15
16 Figure 1c shows an alternative embodiment of a stored voice paging receiver
17 with prestored voice or sound signals and a coincidence detector, along with a DTMF
18 tone decoder.

19
20 Figure 1d shows an alternative embodiment of a non-display autodialing type
21 paging receiver with text-to-speech synthesis.

22
23 A detailed description of the device operation in Figures 1b - 1d will follow later in
24 this specification.

25
26 Figure 2a shows a paging system to be described hereinafter in which caller id
27 data is received and stored at a called station location with a message center device
28 and retransmitted to a paging center over the public switched telephone network
29 (PSTN).
30

1 Figure 2b shows an alternative embodiment in which a personal message center
2 is located at the telephone office (102) rather than at the called party office (300), such
3 as voice mail service offered by the Regional Bell Operating Companies such as Pacific
4 Bell Telephone. For brevity, the discussions herein are directed to Figure 2a although it
5 is recognized that the ~~inventions~~ embodiments described herein could be applied to a
6 system such as described in Figure 2b, or other similar systems.

7
8 In Figure 2a, a calling party places TEL 1 in an off-hook condition and initiates a
9 communication over the PSTN via telephone line (501) to an originating central office
10 (101) through telephone line (502) to terminating central office (102). The caller id data
11 is supplied in the conventional manner between the ringing signals from the terminating
12 central office (102) through telephone line (503) to a called station location (300) which
13 has a message center (301) and extension telephone TEL 3.

14
15 Alternately, caller id data in an ISDN environment can be sent as described in
16 Belcore document SR-NWT-002006 entitled National ISDN, U.S. Patent 4,899,358 and
17 4,922,490 patents issued Blakely, and other Belcore technical references widely
18 available and not described but incorporated herein by reference. Typically caller
19 identifying data supplied from custom calling services in an ISDN environment can be
20 received and stored at a message center similar to a POTS (plain old telephone
21 service) environment and later transmitted to a paging receiver held by a remotely
22 located called party.

23
24 Message center device (301) may be a conventional telephone answering
25 device, a personal computer with voice/fax mail or modem communications, or a
26 conventional facsimile device, or some other device suitable for receiving incoming calls
27 automatically and initiating automatic outgoing calls automatically to a paging center in
28 response to calls received.

1 US Patents 4,737,979, 4,821,308, 5,333,179, 5,159,624, 5,208,850, 5,077,786,
2 5,014,296 and 4,985,913 and 5,128,980 are all variants of such devices and are
3 incorporated herein by reference, though not fundamental to the claimed invention. For
4 example, 4,821,308 issued to Hashimoto, requires manual DTMF entry by a calling
5 party of the calling parties number. In 4,985,913, caller identifying information can be
6 automatically received and stored to generate a particular paging notification but the
7 actual caller identifying data received and stored is not transmitted to a called
8 communicant through a paging center.

9
10 Fundamental circuitry for telephony and telephone related devices can be found
11 in Understanding Telephone Electronics, Third Edition, by Bigelow, also incorporated
12 herein by reference. Also incorporated herein by reference is a textbook entitled Voice
13 Processing written by Gordon E. Pelton ~~which~~ that is a useful reference for
14 fundamental concepts discussed in this specification.

15
16 Additionally, other devices that may be incorporated in the message center
17 include a telephone answering device with video telephone as described in US
18 5,046,079, also incorporated herein by reference. Such a device is capable of receiving
19 a picture signal sent between the ringing signals that ~~is~~ are intended to establish the
20 identity of the calling party similar to conventional textual or audible caller id information.
21 The caller identifying video image may be stored on a recording medium. Telephone
22 devices at the calling party side (TEL 1) that could be used include the AT&T
23 VideoPhone 2500 or other popular teleconferencing products available recently on the
24 personal computer. For example, US Patent 5,278,889 incorporated herein by reference
25 describes one such implementation of a video telephony system. For purposes of
26 brevity it is understood that methods other than those discussed at length for textual
27 data detection and reception would be more appropriate for transmitting caller identifying
28 video images, as is well known in the art.

1 Message Center device (301) may automatically initiate an off-hook condition in
2 response to a ringing signal by using a ring detect interface circuit or some other means,
3 as is well known in the art. The Message Center device (301) also has a caller id
4 detection circuit which is suitable for detecting caller id data transmitted in between the
5 first and second ringing signals. The caller id detection circuit for textual data includes a
6 filter and demodulator circuit that is used for demodulating a 300 baud rate of incoming
7 serial data stream using the technique of Frequency Shift keying. Data received by the
8 circuit may include data representing the incoming telephone number, name, date and
9 time of the current incoming call.

10
11 In a Personal Computer device equipped with a modem that can receive
12 incoming calls, caller id can also be received. Such a device is becoming more popular
13 with users in that a variety of modems that can receive facsimile and/or facsimile
14 combined with voice messages are currently available. In US 5,343,516 issued to
15 Callele et al. is shown a computer system which can receive caller identification
16 information supplied between the ringing signals in the conventional manner, which is
17 incorporated herein by reference. **This Their** invention is interesting in that it provides
18 for the delivery of caller id information to a computer device connected to the PSTN
19 which can transfer caller id data over a network to other computers and telephone sets
20 that are the destination of the incoming telephone call. This patent does not teach how
21 to communicate this information to a remote wireless personal communicator however.

22
23 In one embodiment as described in this **invention specification**, the modem
24 monitors the phone line between the first and second ring burst without causing the data
25 access arrangement to go off hook in the conventional sense, which would inhibit
26 transmission of Calling Number Identification. A V.23 1200 bbs modem receiver may be
27 used to demodulate the Bell 202 signal. The ring indicate bit (RI) may be used on a
28 modem to indicate when to monitor the phone line for CND information. After the RI bit
29 sets, indicating the first ring burst, the host waits for the RI bit to reset. The host then
30 configures the modem to monitor the phone line for Calling Number Identification. The

1 CND signalling starts as early as 300 ms after the first ring burst and ends at least 475
2 mS before the second ring burst.

3
4 The received calling Number Identification may then be stored in a memory
5 **means** in the Personal Computer as herein described. Calling name and other
6 information could also be received, stored and transmitted using ascii character
7 representations of the data in a similar fashion. In an alternative embodiment, the
8 received number information could be used with a table look-up to append the prestored
9 calling parties name in the personal computer with the received numeric caller id data
10 for retransmission to an alphanumeric paging center. Blocked information represented
11 by the ASCII character "P" could also be received, stored and retransmitted to a paging
12 center, or used to inhibit a paging transmission to a personal communicator device.
13 Alternate numbers could be specified by the calling party to be used as the Incoming
14 Line Identification number, as is seen in US 5,283,824 issued to Shaw and incorporated
15 herein by reference. The calling party may be provided with the option of having the
16 number of his calling station or some other number used as the Incoming Caller
17 Identification number such as his/her home or business telephone number. This option
18 could be provided to the calling party by the telephone switch in the case of a credit card
19 or other type call, or could be provided to the calling party by the message center by
20 means of audible voice instructions. In either case alternate data could be stored for
21 later transmission from the message center to a paging transmitter.

22
23 The caller identifying data could also be used as described in US 4,985,913, US
24 5,278,894 and others incorporated herein by reference, in which customized greeting
25 messages could be used when particular caller id data is received at the message
26 center.

27
28 Alternatively, the message center device (301) may include an ANI detection
29 circuit rather than the caller id detection circuit previously described. ANI encoding is a
30 function performed by the network ~~which~~ that identifies the originating phone number of

1 the message delivered to the received telephone line. ANI encoding is currently used in
2 "911" information systems, 800 and 900 numbers and many private PBX exchange
3 systems. For example, in US 4,313,035 issued to Jordan et al. incorporated herein by
4 reference is described a paging service in which the ANI directory telephone number of
5 the calling party may be delivered and stored at a TSPS (Traffic Service Position
6 System) and stored in a data base. Using a paging facility such as the BELLBOY
7 personal signalling system, a paging signal can be generated to a remote called party.
8 The called party, in response to an alert in a paging receiver, can then initiate an inquiry
9 call to determine the identity of the caller and return the call. In the ~~improved invention~~
10 improvements described herein, the identity of the calling party is delivered
11 automatically to the called-party paging receiver.
12

13 ANI may also be delivered to the message center device and then retransmitted
14 to a paging center with multi-frequency or DTMF tones using a somewhat different data
15 transmission protocol from caller id, which will now be described.
16

17 The information delivered from ANI ranges from Level A service that provides
18 caller area code only to Level D service that provides caller area code, city, local
19 exchange # and phone #. Further details about ANI are shown in US Patent 4,942,598
20 issued to Davis and Bellcore Technical Reference TR-NWT-000064 and FSD
21 20-20-0000 entitled LATA Switching Systems Generic Requirements - Automatic
22 Number Identification and Operator Number Identification, which are both incorporated
23 herein by reference. Such an alternative arrangement may prove to be useful to
24 customers utilizing inbound 800 numbers as the primary access for calling parties to a
25 message center.
26

27 ANI DETECTOR USED IN A PAGING CENTER

28

29 In a related disclosure, ANI information instead of caller id information can be
30 used for transmission to a called party personal communicator. By incorporating an ANI

1 decoder directly within a paging center, calling party ANI information can be
2 incorporated in a system similar to that shown in copending applications 08/177,550 and
3 08/177,551.
4

5 Hereinafter, the generic term caller id shall be used interchangeably to describe
6 conventional number and number/name caller id, ANI, video, fax header or alternate
7 manually entered caller identifying data.
8

9 It should be understood that when a particular implementation is referring to ANI,
10 the necessary decoding circuitry and transmission protocol would be used as opposed
11 to different decoding circuitry and transmission protocol used for Caller ID or other caller
12 identifying data.
13

14 CALLER ID USED IN A PAGING SYSTEM WITH A SEPARATE MESSAGE CENTER 15

16 The message center device includes a memory to store and retrieve caller
17 identifying data received in a memory **means**, as is well known in the art. One such
18 apparatus is described in US ~~5,238,818~~ 5,283,818 and US ~~5,390,346~~ 5,390,236 issued
19 to Klausner et al and incorporated herein by reference. The message center device
20 (301) also has prestored paging transmission data in a memory **means** which may
21 include at least the telephone number of the paging center and any pager id data that
22 will ensure data transmitted will be sent to the appropriate called party. The pager id
23 data typically ranges from 4 to 15 digits in length to uniquely identify a paging receiver.
24 Such prestored data may be automatically recalled at the message center to generate
25 dialing instructions to a paging center upon receipt and storage of an incoming call and
26 optional data message.
27

28 Upon receiving caller id data supplied from the terminating central office at the
29 called station location, the caller id data is stored in a memory **means** or on a hard disk
30 drive and the message center device then initiates an off-hook condition to answer the

1 call. Then if the message center device (301) is of the type that stores voice messages,
2 an outgoing message such as conventionally generated by a telephone answering
3 machine or PC voice mail system or video telephone answering machine may be
4 transmitted to the calling party and a calling party may respond by annunciating a voice
5 or video message. The voice or video message is received and stored at the message
6 center (301). In addition, the stored voice or video data may be encoded or compressed
7 to conserve memory storage space in the message center device. Compression of the
8 message data will also reduce transmission time required later when the message data
9 is sent in a subsequent paging transmission from the message center device (301) to a
10 paging center (105). One such compression algorithm ~~which~~ that is known as G.723 is
11 slated for approval by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU). It is intended
12 for use with real-time multimedia, simultaneous voice and data, and conferencing
13 applications. A software solution that delivers such a compression algorithm is available
14 from a company known as DSP Group, Inc. out of Santa Clara, California, known as
15 TrueSpeech. This software currently will run on processors such as the Texas
16 Instruments TMS320C5X, Motorola 56156 Digital Signal Processor, Intel
17 386/486/Pentium, Analog Devices 2100 and other processors.

18
19 The voice or other data may be stored contiguously in a memory location with
20 caller id data received or stored in a different memory location and associated with caller
21 id data received and stored, for later transmission to a called party personal
22 communicator (201). After the data is stored on a recording ~~means~~ medium at the
23 message center device (301) the calling party at TEL 1 hangs up.

24
25 Other message data received by the message center and associated with caller
26 id data could be received and stored in a similar fashion. For example, the message
27 center may receive a facsimile image, or a video telephone message. Received
28 facsimile or video image data could be stored with caller ID or caller identifying data and
29 transmitted to a paging receiver adapted to store and view facsimiles or video images
30 along with associated caller id or caller identifying data. Such data could be encrypted

1 such as is described in US 5,285,496 issued to Frank et al. and incorporated herein by
2 reference or encoded as previously described to reduce the message size for storage
3 and transmission.
4

5 Other textual special message data such as described in US 4,811,382 could be
6 captured at the message center to be transmitted to a paging center, which is herein
7 incorporated by reference. This textual data could be sent to the message center in
8 place of caller identifying data or along with caller identifying data that could be used as
9 a header record for notification within a personal communicator device.
10

11 Upon detecting that the called party has disconnected, the message center
12 device (301) hangs up. Then the message center device (301) is returned to an off hook
13 condition and automatic paging instructions are retrieved from the prestored memory
14 **means** in the message center device. In the case where a paging transmitter is integral
15 to the message center, no outward dialing to the PSTN is required but instead, a paging
16 transmission may occur directly. In the case where a second telephone line is connected
17 to the message center, the message data received on the first telephone line from the
18 calling party could be sent out to a paging center over the second telephone line prior to
19 disconnection with the calling party on the first telephone line.
20

21 Follows is described a system where a paging center is connected to the
22 message center by a connection with the PSTN. Dialing instructions prestored typically
23 would include the modem access # for the paging center, and a pin # associated with a
24 particular personal communicator device or pager which is usually either 4, 7, or 15
25 digits in length, but could be any unique identifying data. A calling signal is sent to a
26 paging center (105) through telephone line (503) to originating central telephone office
27 (102) and telephone line (504), to terminating central telephone office (103).
28

29 Terminating central telephone office (103) is connected to paging center (105) by
30 a modem adapted to establish communication using predetermined communications

1 protocol suitable for the type of paging service provided. For example, data
2 communication protocol may be significantly different for numeric data from that
3 required for stored voice data communications.
4

5 The paging center (105) answers in response to a calling signal from a message
6 center and the data representative of caller id data is sent to the paging center from the
7 memory of the message center. The caller identifying data is sent to the paging center
8 using the predetermined signalling protocol (to be discussed hereinafter) followed or
9 preceded by any optional data to be transmitted. Alternatively, the message center could
10 employ a tone or other decoder responsive to control signals generated by the paging
11 center. Such a tone or other tone decoder could be employed prior to initiating the
12 transmission of caller id and message data using a predetermined signalling protocol,
13 rather than automatically transmitting the data by default or after a predetermined time
14 period elapsed. As one example of various signalling protocols that could be used, US
15 Patent 4,878,051 and 4,868,860 issued to Andros et al. ~~is~~ are incorporated herein by
16 reference.
17

18 Copending applications 08/177,550 and 08/177,851 both deal with paging
19 centers of the type that incorporate a caller id detection circuit connected to the paging
20 center that allow automatic detection and transmission of caller identification data to a
21 numeric, alphanumeric, or stored voice paging receiver or personal communication
22 device.
23

24 If the paging center is the type which allows caller id data to be detected from an
25 incoming caller and transmitted to a paging receiver automatically as described in the
26 above patent applications, the transmission of caller id data may be prevented by a
27 special signal present in the data transmission from the message center or by some
28 other means. For example by preceding the string of data sent from the message center
29 with a # sign, the paging center will detect the "#" sign and disable storage and
30 transmission of any caller identification data received at the caller id detector of the

1 paging center for that particular incoming call from the message center (301). Such
2 caller id data of the message center location would not be transmitted to the called party
3 portable communication device (201) in this case. Instead, the caller id data of the
4 original calling party would be sent to the pager. In another example, a caller id blocking
5 signal could be appended to the outward dialing signal that would instruct the
6 terminating central office to block transmission of caller id data from the message
7 center. Alternatively, the absence of a special signal in the string of data sent from the
8 message center (301) could indicate that the caller id data detected by the caller id
9 detector in the paging center and the string of prestored caller identifying data from the
10 message center would both be sent to the called party personal communicator (201).
11 Alternatively, only the caller identification data corresponding to the message center
12 could be sent and the caller id data corresponding to the original calling party could be
13 prevented from transmission to a called party personal communicator. Such
14 modifications in the ~~invention~~ preferred embodiments herein provide flexibility for the
15 called parties to receive very diverse information at ~~their~~ a paging receiver. Additionally
16 receipt of, in the above case, a "#" sign could allow for the storage of the caller id data
17 corresponding to the incoming call from the message center, but prevent the data from
18 being transmitted along with data received from the message center. Such a feature
19 would be useful to the operators at the paging center who might wish to know from
20 where their call volume originated.

21
22 In yet an alternative embodiment, the paging subscriber could predetermine in
23 advance at the paging center which calling parties they wished to receive pages from.
24 Any other calling parties not having a corresponding caller id signal that matched the
25 prestore preferences at the paging center would not be able to cause a paging signal to
26 be transmitted.

27
28 If paging center (105) is not of the type that is caller id enabled, then no such
29 special code is necessary to inhibit unwanted caller id data of the message center (301)
30 from transmission. In this case the caller id and other data received and stored at the

1 message center (301) may be automatically, or in response to a control signal
2 originating from the paging center (105), be transmitted to the paging center from the
3 message center. The message center could also automatically insert other caller
4 identifying or other data corresponding to items such as the number of facsimile pages
5 or actual voice or fax message received, or some other useful information to be sent to
6 a paging center along with the caller id data and optional message data.

7
8 In one preferred embodiment within the message center (301), the caller ID data
9 is recalled from the memory ~~means~~ of the message center and converted to DTMF
10 signals. One device that is particularly useful for conversion of caller id data to DTMF
11 signals is manufactured by Nicollet Technologies, Inc. is known as the DTS-2040.

12
13 Such DTMF signals representative of numeric caller id data are then transmitted
14 from the message center to the paging center after the paging center has answered the
15 call initiated by the message center and signalled that it is ready to receive data. This
16 feature is especially useful in a numeric_paging environment.

17
18 Conversion at the message center of the stored caller id data to be retransmitted
19 over the PSTN to a paging center is not limited to DTMF signals, but may also include
20 other signalling ~~means~~ appropriate for alphanumeric data typically received from caller
21 id services such as name and date information. In another device manufactured by
22 Nicollet Industries, Inc., the DTS-1082 can capture caller id data and convert it to ascii
23 data for storage and later retransmission from the message center to a paging center.

24
25 ~~In addition, fax header or E-mail information received at the message center~~
26 ~~could be used alternatively as caller identifying information. Figures 6a and 6b~~
27 ~~summarize one embodiment of this concept. The message center could, for~~
28 ~~example, upon detection of a CNG tone, store conventional fax header~~
29 ~~information received for retransmission to a paging center or for transmission to~~
30 ~~a personal communicator directly from a paging transmitter integral or directly~~

1 ~~connected to the message center. The fax header or Email information could be~~
2 ~~transmitted to a personal communicator device that has prestored caller data~~
3 ~~contained in a memory along with a comparing means. The caller data could~~
4 ~~include a variety of information corresponding to frequent callers, including~~
5 ~~name, address, telephone number, fax number, and E mail addresses for each~~
6 ~~calling party. Additionally, a prestored voice annunciation corresponding to the~~
7 ~~identity of a caller or a prestored video image representative of the calling party~~
8 ~~could also be included in each caller record. Upon detection of a coincidence~~
9 ~~between the fax or E mail or other data received, the other associated data from~~
10 ~~the corresponding data record could be made available to the called party.~~

11
12 CALLER IDENTIFYING DATA COMPRISED OF FAX HEADER DATA TRANSMITTED
13 TO A PAGING CENTER AND PERSONAL COMMUNICATOR DEVICE
14

15 Fax header information and the protocol for communication between facsimile
16 message communications devices is notoriously old. For reference, see the book
17 entitled FAX: Digital Facsimile Technology and Applications, Second Edition, and
18 Standards developed by the CCITT (International Telegraph and Telephone
19 Consultative Committee) including T.30 incorporated herein by reference. Other
20 standards are widely known though not discussed in detail here.

21
22 Briefly, in a message center which is receiving a Group 3 fax from a calling party,
23 the calling parties device can send a coded signal known as the transmit subscriber
24 identification (TSI) after handshaking is established during what is referred to as the call
25 set up or phase A. Typically the calling fax dials the telephone number of the message
26 center over the PSTN. The ring signal and the CNG calling tone are received at the
27 called message center and the CNG tone indicates the call is from a fax machine
28 instead of a voice call. The called message center answers the call by going off hook.
29 Then typically after a one second delay, the called message center sends its called
30 station identification (CSI), a 3 second 2100 Hz tone, back to the calling fax machine.

1
2 Then during Phase B known as the premessage procedure, the called fax
3 machine sends the TSI which includes at least the telephone number of the calling party
4 fax machine. This information is typically used in the message center as fax header
5 information. But in ~~this invention~~ the embodiments herein, it could be used
6 alternatively as caller identifying data that can be stored in a memory at the message
7 center for transmission to a paging center to a personal communicator device similar to
8 the methods described for other caller id data. Such TSI data could be used alternatively
9 for those areas or users that do not have caller id service. In addition, such message
10 data in the TSI may include alphanumeric characters representing the calling party, time
11 and date information and page number data. In a system using only number only caller
12 id, for example, the alphanumeric data corresponding to the name of the sending party
13 contained in the TSI could be appended to the numeric caller id data for transmission to
14 a paging center and personal communicator device. Such a method could be activated
15 by the detection of a CNG signal at the message center. Alternatively, a means of
16 counting the pages received could be employed at the message center, and the total
17 number of pages received could be appended to the caller identifying data. In another
18 embodiment, only faxes of a certain length would be sent to a personal communicator
19 device.
20

21 Predefined user preferences could be used within the message center along with
22 a comparing means using the caller identifying TSI information to determine whether the
23 image data received would be sent to a personal communicator device or just the
24 notification data comprised of the caller identifying data.
25

26 In any case, alphanumeric caller identifying data could be transmitted to a paging
27 center or through an integral paging transmitter connected to the message center using
28 the same alphanumeric protocol currently used in conventional alphanumeric paging
29 systems known as TAP or IXO, incorporated herein by reference. These protocols could
30 be suitable signalling ~~means~~ for transmission of alphanumeric caller id data from the

1 personal message center device to a paging service modem. Typically this conventional
2 alphanumeric protocol operates at 300 baud and is well known in the art.
3

4 Of course in this case the paging center would require a suitable decoder that
5 could receive and decode the alphanumeric data from the message center. This feature
6 is especially desirable in an alphanumeric paging service in that some textual
7 alphanumeric information may be transmitted automatically for the calling party using a
8 conventional telephone at the TEL 1 ~~which~~ that is typically devoid of any alphanumeric
9 input ~~means~~. This is a significant improvement over the prior art. Various other
10 signalling protocols could be used between the message center device and the modem
11 at the paging center without departing from the spirit of ~~this invention~~ the
12 embodiments herein that may be more adapted to higher data transmission speeds,
13 compression algorithms or the like. For example, the PCIA has made available other
14 protocols for alternative data transmission such as image and other data referred to as
15 TDP Protocol, issued June 12, 1993, which is incorporated herein by reference. These
16 protocols could be modified to incorporate caller identifying data fields for transmission
17 with other optional data. Some paging centers do not adhere strictly to published
18 protocol but instead have a variant of their own. In this case, it could be possible for the
19 message center to establish the protocol used by the paging center dynamically by first
20 recognizing and then selecting from among several different known protocols for
21 subsequent transmission of the alphanumeric caller identifying data in a form
22 recognized by the paging center. Incorporated herein by reference is a good reference
23 entitled Understanding Data Communications, Third Edition by Held which gives a
24 fundamental overview of various communications methods and terminology.
25

26 TEXT TO SPEECH CONVERSION CONDUCTED AT THE TERMINATING CENTRAL 27 OFFICE 28

29 Alternatively, the terminating central office (102) could apply a t xt to speech
30 converter, similar to that shown in US 4,899,358 issued to Blakely, in which an

annunciated caller identifying signal is sent from the terminating switch to the message center device at the called station location. It is incorporated herein by reference. Such annunciated caller identifying information could be particularly useful when used in a stored voice paging receiver similar to devices shown in US 4,965,569 Bennett et al., US 4,868,560 issued to Oliwa, 4,873,520 issued to Fisch et al., and US 5,153,579 Fisch et al., also incorporated herein by reference.

In one embodiment the caller id data is supplied to the message center from the terminating central office as an audible voice representation of caller id data and stored at the message center. Such data may also be encoded as previously described to conserve memory storage.

In this embodiment the audible encoded caller id data can be transferred to a paging center as previously described along with any optional data for transmission from a paging center and annunciation at a personal communication device.

TEXT TO SPEECH CONVERSION WITHIN THE MESSAGE CENTER OR PAGING CENTER

Alternatively, received and stored textual caller id data could be applied to a speech synthesizer unit contained within the message center or paging center, as partly described in US Patent 4,720,848 issued to Akiyama, 5,349,638 issued to Pitroda et al. or US 4,742,516 issued to Yamaguchi, which deals with a communication system with a voice announcement means. They are herein incorporated by reference. Also incorporated herein by reference is a software product offered by Stylus Innovation, Inc. out of Cambridge Mass. known as Visual Voice ~~which~~ that runs on a personal computer. Using a digital signal processor in the personal computer, text to speech processing can be applied to caller id data. The resulting speech signals representative of the caller id data can be stored in a storage ~~means~~ medium within the message center for transmission to a stored-voice paging center.

1
2 In addition, the Visual Voice system has an international language support that
3 can speak the caller id data in the language desired by the called party at a personal
4 communication device or at the message center. In any case, received textual caller
5 identifying data which is stored at the message center is transferred to a paging center
6 and transmitted as audible speech signals to a stored voice paging receiver.
7 Alternatively, the textual data may be applied to a text to speech converter within a
8 personal communication device for annunciation, as is well known in the art.
9

10 Irrespective of the signalling used after the calling party has disconnected with
11 the message center, DTMF or other signals representing the stored caller id data are
12 sent from the message center through the PSTN to the paging center. Any optional data
13 such as additional voice message data, DTMF, image or other message data entered by
14 the calling party may also be transferred from the message center (301) memory **means**
15 to the paging center for transmission to the called party personal communicator (210)
16 via radio link (509). Such a feature is useful in paging systems **which that** include
17 stored voice paging receivers and non-voice paging systems such as described in
18 5,095,307 or 4,961,216, which are also incorporated herein by reference. In the case
19 where caller id service is not available to a calling or called party, particularly in the case
20 of stored voice paging systems, a DTMF entry could be made by the calling party to
21 represent the caller identifying data to be transmitted with optional data such as a voice
22 message. If the caller id detector failed to detect any caller id, a default voice message
23 prompt could be generated by the message center that instructed the caller to enter at
24 least their telephone number in the conventional manner using an input device at the
25 calling **parties party's** telephone. Then the caller could be instructed to leave an
26 optional voice message **which that** could then be transmitted to a paging center after
27 the caller hangs up. Such data would be stored at the message center as previously
28 described and then the message center could automatically call the paging center.
29 Alternatively, caller identifying data could be detected, an acknowledgement of the
30 received and stored caller id data could be annunciated back to the caller, and an option

1 could be given to modify or change the caller id data prior to leaving a voice or other
2 optional data message.

3
4 Other caller identifying data **which that** may be more readily recognized by the
5 called party could be entered in place of the caller id data for example.

6
7 The information could then be transmitted by the paging center and received at a
8 stored voice paging receiver for display, annunciation and used as redial data within the
9 personal communicator device. This feature is especially useful in those cases where
10 no caller identifying data would otherwise be associated with a voice message for
11 transmission to a stored voice paging receiver or personal communicator device and is a
12 significant improvement over the prior art stored voice paging receivers.

13
14 A special code such as "*" or some other special code could be used to signal
15 the end of any DTMF or other signal data representative of caller id and to signify the
16 beginning of transmission of optional data stored at the message center. This code
17 could be automatically included by the personal message center or manually entered by
18 the calling party for storage and transmission with the caller identifying data string stored
19 at the personal message center. Optional data, such as a voice message or other data
20 entered or sent by a calling party could then be stored and transmitted after the caller
21 identifying data and demarcation code. Other coding methodologies **which that** demarc
22 the stored caller id data from other stored optional message data may be used and are
23 not fundamental to the claimed invention herein but are considered obvious to those
24 skilled in the art.

25
26 In the example above, wherein said optional data is a voice message, the receipt
27 of a special code signal at the paging center (105) from the message center (301) could
28 enable a voice storage memory and receiving **means** at the paging center to distinguish
29 other data representative of caller id information from optional data such as voice
30 messages. In addition, the data types of the caller identifying data and optional message

1 data could be different from each other and not require any demarcation data. In one
2 such case, caller identifying textual data could be detected by one type of detector at the
3 paging transmitter, and voice or image data could be detected by another type of
4 detector at the paging transmitter. The paging center could then store the data received
5 and retransmit the data to a personal communicator device.

6
7 The paging center may receive the optional data such as a voice or textual
8 message from the message center to be stored in a memory ~~means~~ at the paging
9 center. When the transmission is completed from the messaging center, the
10 communication with the paging center is ended and the message center and the paging
11 center hang up.

12
13 The paging center then initiates a paging transmission to the appropriate paging
14 receiver and retrieves any stored caller id data and optional data from the memory
15 ~~means~~ transferred from the message center. After the pager id is decoded in the
16 conventional fashion at the personal communicator device, the telephone number and
17 /or number and name (if present) and optional date and time information representative
18 of the caller id of the calling party, along with any optional data message such as a
19 voice, text or image message, are received by the called party personal communicator.

20
21 Such received data could be stored in different memory locations or in one
22 contiguous memory within the personal communicator device, demarced by the special
23 coding method employed, to be accessed within a stored voice or other paging receiver
24 held by the called party in a variety of ways known to those skilled in the art.

25
26 In one example, to access the caller id data, a called party might press a "view"
27 button to see the caller identifying data. Or by default, the caller id data might be
28 displayed automatically when received or after a PIN is entered by the called party. To
29 access the actual voice message, a called party might press a "play" button. Such a
30 personal communicator could also be responsive to voice commands annunciated by

1 the called party into a microphone and a voice command unit within the personal
2 communicator device which is connected to the microphone and is responsive to
3 commands such as "PLAY", "REWIND", "FORWARD", etc. In addition, stored voice
4 messages could be recorded on a removable memory such as a PCMCIA memory card
5 that is now very popular in portable computing devices. Stored voice messages with or
6 without corresponding caller identifying data could be transferred from the personal
7 communicator device to another computing or voice message storage device in a
8 central location such as the office of the called party.

9 10 PERSONAL COMMUNICATOR DEVICE WITH IMPROVED TIME DATA INPUT 11 MEANS USING CALLER ID DATA 12

13 In the caller id data received and stored at the paging center or message center,
14 time data corresponding to the time and date a communication was received could be
15 transmitted to a personal communicator device. This could be particularly useful in a
16 system in which several messages received were held in a queue for some time before
17 a transmission occurred to the personal communicator device. The time data could be
18 used as a sorting record at the paging center or message center to determine which
19 calls were transmitted in a batch fashion as opposed to immediately transmitted upon
20 receipt at the paging or message center.

21
22 For example, all calls received during peak periods during a certain time of day
23 may be transmitted later off-peak to reduce congestion on the wireless communication
24 system. Or all calls received during weekends or holidays could be transmitted in a
25 lower priority queuing sequence than calls received during the week. In addition,
26 message data received at the personal communicator could be organized and accessed
27 according to the date and time the communication was completed in a very accurate
28 and automatic fashion for the calling and called party. See related US Patent 4,872,005
29 issued to DeLuca et al. incorporated herein by reference.
30

1 In addition, such caller id time and date data could be used to initialize a time of
2 day clock contained within a personal communicator device such as a Personal
3 computer, cellular phone or the like. This could be beneficial in the circumstance where
4 a power failure erased the time and date information ordinarily entered manually by a
5 user. Other devices such as VCRs, automobile clocks and the like could be equipped
6 with a receiver that could accept such information as well.

7 8 CALLER ID FROM A PBX WITH AN INTEGRATED OR CONNECTED TRANSMITTER 9 TO A PERSONAL COMMUNICATOR 10

11 The message center could be directly connected to a paging transmitter that
12 would not require a dial in via the PSTN to a paging network. In one embodiment, the
13 message center and the paging transmitter could be an apparatus similar to that
14 described in US 5,151,930 issued to Hagl which describes a paging system within a
15 telephone private branch exchange and incorporated herein by reference. Such a
16 system could be modified such that any calls coming in from outside the PBX could be
17 passed through a caller id detector circuit as previously described, and this information
18 could be sent through to a personal communicator or call device.

19
20 In an alternate embodiment, caller id data could be delivered to a local paging
21 system such as a unit offered by Motorola known as "Site-call" which is typically
22 connected to a PBX such as the Meridian 1 manufactured by Northern Telecom.

23
24 Appropriate software and hardware at the PBX could capture and deliver ANI or
25 Caller ID data to the "Site-Call" or similar local paging system. The prior art local paging
26 systems require a calling party to enter their telephone number by DTMF entry, which is
27 then transmitted by a local paging transmitter. This is limited in that only numeric data
28 may be received and displayed to alert a called party. Alternatively in the prior art
29 systems, a message such as "outside call" is displayed at the pager. By integrating
30 various concepts taught in the ~~invention~~ embodiments herein, telephone number data

1 and other caller identifying data may be automatically sent from a PBX to an onsite
2 pager for display, annunciation, or other alerting means.

3
4 Alternately, a call could be received at the PBX and if the call was unanswered at
5 the called station, a message could be taken in a voice mail center and the caller id data
6 (along with an optional voice or other message) could be delivered to a paging receiver
7 by way of an onsite or offsite paging transmitter.

8
9 The message center device may be directly connected to a paging terminal,
10 thereby eliminating the necessity of a second connection to the telephone network. The
11 paging terminal could be a "People Finder" paging terminal manufactured by Motorola,
12 Inc.

13
14 In another implementation, the message center device is interfaced to a paging
15 terminal such as the Modax paging terminal manufactured by Motorola, Inc. which was
16 adapted to transmit additional caller identification information with a standard paging
17 transmission. The interface from the message center to the paging terminal may be
18 through a 1 or 2 telephone line interface. The interconnection to a paging terminal and
19 the terminal's subsequent operation are well known in the art. The paging terminal
20 transmits to a personal communicator **which that** is capable of receiving and decoding
21 paging signals modulated by the paging terminal in a radio frequency manner. The
22 personal communicator also has the capability to store a message and to play back a
23 message which may include caller identifying source indicator data as previously
24 described that may be viewed on a display member or heard first through an
25 annunciation means.

26
27 In figure 2b is described a message center which is at the telephone office rather
28 than the called party office. The concepts previously described for a called party office
29 based message center could also be modified and incorporated in the conventional
30 voice mail system offered by the telephone company.

AUTOMATIC PAGING TELEPHONE SET USING CALLER ID INSTEAD OF DTMF FOR CALLER IDENTIFYING DATA

In US 5,128,980 issued to Choi is described a system in which a calling party may enter their phone number using DTMF for automatic transmission to a paging center and is incorporated herein by reference. This method could be modified to incorporate a caller id detector ~~which~~ that would be substituted for, or supplied in addition to, the DTMF receiver. When the device is in a pager number recording mode (either between the first and second ringing signals or after the device is placed in an off-hook position) the caller id data may be entered and stored automatically for the calling party, may be manually entered by DTMF entry by the calling party, or may be entered and stored using part of the caller id data supplied automatically and part of the data manually entered by the calling party. Then the caller identifying data can be transmitted to a paging center along with any optional data as described in the patent in an automatic, manual, or combined fashion.

COINCIDENCE DETECTION WITHIN THE MESSAGE CENTER

Optional data such as a voice message can be selectively transmitted to the called party, based on some comparator at the message center that analyzes the source identity of the calling party with prestored user preferences determined in advance by the called party. Or by default, all optional data received could either be stored for later retrieval by the called party or stored and transmitted to the called party personal communicator device along with the caller identifying data. The paging transmission can be encoded at the paging transmitter to economize on valuable transmission time, and then later decoded on a real time or delayed basis within the receiving called party personal communicator. Private flagged caller id data and optional messages may be automatically omitted from storage at the message center or omitted from transmission to a personal communicator device.

1 STORED VOICE COMMUNICATOR WITH TEXT HEADER INFORMATION DISPLAY

2
3 Incorporated herein by reference is US 5,390,362 issued to Modjeska et al. This
4 patent discloses a method of combining voice and data into a message format that can
5 be sent to a pager capable of receiving a combination voice and data message. A called
6 party may selectively review header information corresponding to the calling party prior
7 to listening to any received voice message. A paging transmitter such as described in
8 this disclosure can be modified to incorporate a caller id or ANI decoder (207) or fax
9 signal decoder (209) in automatic telephone input (202) that can receive data
10 automatically from the PBX or PSTN (108) and store this data in paging terminal
11 controller memory (232). Voice synthesizer (208) can playback for the calling party a
12 text to speech synthesized representation of caller id or ANI data and ask whether the
13 data should be sent with the paging message. For example, the voice synthesizer (208)
14 can receive textual caller id or ANI data such as "555-1212 John Smith" from the ANI
15 or Caller ID decoder and then generate the following instructional message to the calling
16 party, "Press or say 'ONE' if you wish for '555-1212 John Smith calling.' to be
17 transmitted. Press or say 'TWO' if you wish this information to be transmitted and
18 marked urgent. Press or say 'THREE' if you wish for this information to not be sent and
19 you wish to enter some other data from your touchtone keypad or keyboard." The calling
20 party, upon hearing the synthesized voice annunciation, then can select which caller
21 identifying data should be sent. In the case of a stored voice paging system, upon
22 hearing confirmation of the desired caller identifying data, the calling party would then be
23 instructed to leave a voice message, which would be stored in the voice store and
24 forward module (216). The confirmed caller identifying data would be stored in memory
25 232 to be linked with the voice message data stored in memory 224 for transmission
26 from transmitter base station 226 to a selective call receiver. In the case of a paging
27 system equipped with a fax store and forward module 216 and fax signal decoder 209,
28 fax header information as previously described could be received and stored in memory
29 232, fax data could be received and stored in memory 224, and the contents of
30

1 memories 224 and 232 could be transmitted by transmitter base station 226 to a
2 selective call receiver.

3
4 In US Patent 5,283,818 is shown a message system which describes a system
5 linking textual data with voice messages, and is incorporated herein by reference. Such
6 an apparatus could be modified to incorporate the transmission of caller identifying data
7 and voice data to a stored-voice paging receiver, via a call from the message center to a
8 paging transmitter via the PSTN as previously described. In addition, to economize on
9 minimizing the time spent connecting with a paging center, the messages received at
10 the message center could be queued for batch transmission either during offpeak
11 periods or periodically. Exceptions could be made for urgent message transmission that
12 could occur without waiting for the message queue transmission.

13
14 Another patent incorporated herein by reference is US 5,258,751 issued to
15 DeLuca et al. Message storage slots can include caller identifying data display which
16 has been transmitted to a selective call receiver or personal communication device as
17 discussed hereinbefore. Any corresponding voice or other message data can then be
18 displayed or annunciated after the user selects the desired message for review.

19
20 Upon receipt at the personal communicator device, the user could scroll through
21 the received messages such as described in US 5,285,493 issued to Wagai et al. and
22 incorporated herein by reference, or by numerous other methods discussed in the
23 various personal communicator apparatus described by reference or example herein.

24
25 The messages could be stored chronologically, with resequencing of the
26 previously stored messages occurring automatically upon receipt of any new message
27 or deletion of any previously recorded message. Alternatively, the messages with the
28 caller id header data could be selectively stored as determined by the user in a number
29 of ways. The messages could be stored based upon preselected criteria. For example,
30 all messages determined to be of an urgent nature or from a particular communicant

1 could be automatically stored in the firstmost message storage slot positions. In another
2 embodiment, all messages could be analyzed and then stored sequentially in an
3 ascending or descending order, based on the caller id header data presented. US
4 Patent 5,225,826 is incorporated herein by reference and discloses a selective call
5 receiver with an integral time of day clock. Messages received with identical header data
6 records could be stored according to the time and date received within the selective call
7 receiver, the time and date data present in the header data, or according to urgent
8 indicators contained in the header data.

9 10 TEXT TO SPEECH CONVERSION OF CALLER ID HEADER DATA WITHIN A 11 PERSONAL COMMUNICATOR DEVICE 12

13 In another embodiment, the textual information received at the personal
14 communication device could be applied to a codec within the personal communicator
15 device ~~which~~ that is particularly suited to visually impaired persons. Application of a text
16 to speech codec which converts received caller id signals to audible speech signals is
17 well known in the art, as shown in US 5,289,530 issued to Reese and incorporated
18 herein by reference. Such a personal communicator device could be manufactured
19 without a display member to reduce manufacturing costs for specialized purposes.
20

21 In the case of a stored voice message ~~which~~ that is transmitted to a stored voice
22 type called party personal communicator without a display member, textual caller
23 identifying data could be annunciated. Such a device could also employ a display
24 member that was capable of selectively or simultaneously displaying caller identifying
25 data received at the personal communicator device.
26

27 COINCIDENCE DETECTION WITHIN A PERSONAL COMMUNICATOR DEVICE 28

29 Data representative of caller id information may be used at the called party
30 personal communicator as key record data ~~which~~ that could comprise the notification

1 display or could generate some other associated notification ~~means~~ within the called
2 party personal communicator in response to receipt of the caller identifying portion of the
3 message. The personal communicator device could employ a coincidence detector
4 which may generate a number of notification events in response to a match with
5 prestored data or user preferences compared against the caller id data received. For
6 example, upon detecting that a coincidence existed with a prestored data record, a
7 prestored visual image of the calling party could be displayed. In another instance, a
8 coincidence detection within the personal communicator device could require a called
9 party to enter a personal identifying entry before the confidential message could be
10 reviewed. In yet another embodiment, a coincidence detection could inhibit any
11 associated message transmitted from a message center from being reviewed by the
12 called party at the personal communicator device. In yet other embodiments, received
13 fax header information or Email addresses could be compared against a prestored
14 directory within the personal communicator device to display or annunciate other
15 corresponding data records.

16 17 EMBODIMENT USING BLOCKED CALLER ID DATA

18
19 Upon receipt of a "blocked" caller id data such as described in LSSGR - Class
20 Feature: Calling Identity Delivery Blocking Features - FSD 01-02-1053, US 5,341,411
21 issued to Hashimoto entitled Caller ID Blocking Method and Processing System, and US
22 Patent 5,161,181 issued to Zwick entitled Automatic Number Identification Blocking
23 System (all incorporated herein by reference and subject to modification with the
24 invention herein), the personal communicator device could respond by not storing the
25 message at the message center which would have been directed to the personal
26 communicator device. In addition any blocked caller id data could be used at the
27 message center to store and prevent retransmission of the data to the personal
28 communicator device. Alternatively a calling party could selectively omit the transmission
29 of caller ID data by using the blocking signal and sending to the personal communicator
30 device only manually entered data, such as a DTMF signal, a card swipe in a magnetic

1 card reader, a voice message, image or other data in place of caller id data
2 automatically supplied by the telephone company.

3 4 REDIAL MEMORY EMBODIMENT

5
6 Received caller id data can be selectively transferred to a data buffer within the
7 called party personal communicator device for redialing, as seen in US 4,924,496
8 issued to Figa and US 4,873,719 issued to Reese, incorporated herein by reference.
9 Logic can be incorporated into the receiving device that distinguishes either positionally
10 or by filtering the numeric data from the alphanumeric data to ensure that only the
11 numeric data was retrieved and transferred to a data buffer for redial instructions. Such
12 redial instructions within a personal communicator device could include the ability to
13 distinguish between a local dialing mode in which caller identifying data corresponds to
14 call-back numbers within the local calling area. In this case, only the local portion of the
15 caller id data representing the calling ~~parties~~ party's telephone number would be used
16 to generate a dialing instruction from the personal communicator device. In other cases,
17 the entire caller id representing the telephone number of the calling party could be used
18 to generate a dialing signal. This is well known in the art as described in US 4,985,918
19 issued to Tanaka.

20
21 Typically Caller ID data transmitted includes either 7 digit or 10 digit numeric data
22 corresponding to the calling ~~parties~~ party's telephone. Other recent proposals related
23 to the field of Caller Identification deal with automatic transmission of Caller identification
24 from international callers which may consist of less than the required data to complete a
25 return call to the original calling party but more than 7 or 10 digits.

26
27 In one embodiment, upon receipt of an interstate caller id consisting of a 10 digit
28 numeric caller id number such as 305-555-1212, it is necessary to insert a "1" prior to
29 converting caller id data received into a dial signal for the called party to return the call
30 from a cellular telephone device which may be integral or connected to the personal

1 communicator device. Such caller id data as described herein would not complete a
2 dialing signal unless the user manually dialed the digit "1" before the remaining digits
3 were dialed out. As a function of the improved redial circuit in this **invention**
4 **embodiment**, any ten digit caller id data received and stored could automatically be
5 preceded with a digit "1" at the personal communicator device rather than requiring
6 manual entry by the called party prior to dialing. Additionally, in response to receipt of an
7 international caller id numeric sequence, the international caller id data could be
8 preceded by a country code and international calling code like "011" such as is
9 conventionally used. In an alternative embodiment, such additional calling code data
10 could be appended at the message center or at the paging center prior to transmission
11 to a personal communicator device. In some cases a called party may wish to call in
12 first to a long distance service such as 1-800-CALLATT, then enter their account code
13 and pin, and then redial the caller id number received.

14
15 In the case where a credit call should be made as described above, the personal
16 communicator device may not automatically insert any special calling codes to be
17 appended to the caller id data received, but instead may use the caller id data as
18 received for redial data after the other credit calling data is transmitted. In the case
19 where special calling code data has been appended prior to receipt at the personal
20 communicator device, the personal communicator device could strip away or disable the
21 calling codes such as "1" or "011" and only generate the necessary calling sequence
22 corresponding to the telephone number of the original calling party, using the last 10
23 significant digits in the case of a domestic call. In any case such additional features
24 would be very beneficial to the user of such an equipped personal communicator device
25 with a redial feature.

26
27 Where caller identifying data received is comprised of speech signals that
28 represent the calling parties telephone number and/or name, such data could be stored,
29 transferred and used as a redial instruction from the personal communication device to
30 a communication network which was well equipped to receive voice commands for a

1 dialing instruction, such as is seen currently in the Sprint Voice Foncard service and
2 other services, incorporated herein by reference. Selectively or in combination, the
3 speech signals representing the name or telephone number of the calling party could be
4 generated by the personal communicator device to communicate redial instructions to a
5 communication system with voice recognition or with speech command capability.

6 7 MEET ME SERVICE EMBODIMENT 8

9 Such features could be useful as well in a "Meet me" service in which a calling
10 party is placed on hold at the message center. Typically a calling party is instructed to
11 remain on hold and may be asked to enter their telephone number by DTMF entry or
12 entry of a special signal which constitutes a "meet" request. Then the DTMF or special
13 signal is sent through a paging transmitter to a paging receiver. When the paged
14 communicant receives the page, they may call back on a telephone link to the meet me
15 center to be connected with the calling party. However it requires manual entry by the
16 calling party of the call in number of the meet-me service and the called party cannot
17 always remember or know who may be calling by the telephone number alone. Such
18 information is critical for the called party to properly screen meet requests. One system
19 incorporated herein by reference is described in US 4,172,969 issued to Levine et al. In
20 this system, the caller is instructed to dial his calling number. The signals are then
21 conveyed over the telephone line to the receiver telephone answering device to be
22 transmitted to a mobile receiver unit. Another such system is described in part by US
23 5,208,849 issued to Fu, incorporated herein by reference which can be adapted to ~~my~~
24 the invention herein. Another Meet me type system is described in US 5,327,480
25 issued to Breeden, and 5,151,929 issued to Wolf incorporated herein by reference
26 which can be adapted to ~~my~~ the invention herein.
27

28 By incorporating the automatic transmission of calling party number and name in
29 an alphanumeric paging network for example, the called party can more accurately
30 determine who is calling before accepting the "meet" invitation. In the case where a

1 voice Caller ID is supplied by the terminating central office to the meet me service at the
2 message center, the called party can hear an annunciation of the caller's identity from a
3 personal communicator device suitable for the replay of such information.
4

5 The called party personal communicator receives a "meet" request from the
6 paging center which consists of at least the meet request signal supplied automatically
7 or a meet request signal initiated by the calling party. In addition to, or in place of the
8 meet request signal, the caller id data received and stored at the message center
9 corresponding to the calling party on hold can be transmitted to the personal
10 communication device. The calling party could also at this time enter other additional
11 information such as an urgent indicator or special code agreed upon between the calling
12 party and the called party for transmission along with the caller id data and/or meet
13 request. In any case, the calling party is instructed to remain on hold while the called
14 party is paged for a possible meet by the paging center.
15

16 If the called party does not respond within a prescribed period of time, the calling
17 party can then additionally be instructed to leave optional data such as a voice message
18 that can either be retrieved later by the called party, or can be transmitted to the called
19 party personal communicator after the caller disconnects. In another embodiment if the
20 calling party does not wish to wait any longer for the called party to call in to the meet
21 me center, then the called party can interrupt the meet me service by for example
22 depressing the # sign.
23

24 At this point the message center at the meet me service can instruct the caller to
25 enter optional data such as a voice message for storage and/or transmission to the
26 called party. After the calling party disconnects from the message center at the meet me
27 service, the message center can send an additional signal in a second transmission to
28 the personal communication device through a paging center or integral paging
29 transmitter. This signal can indicate that the calling party hung up and that a "meet" with
30

1 the calling party at the message center is not possible. This transmission can also
2 include any optional voice or other data left by the calling party.
3

4 Such data ~~which~~ that is to be transmitted can be incorporated with the previously
5 stored caller id data at the message center for transmission to the personal
6 communicator device. Alternatively the optional data such as a voice message can be
7 transmitted to the called party personal communicator device and appended to, or
8 associated with received caller id data from the calling party.
9

10 In the above described or similar systems, the detected caller id information can
11 be transmitted automatically to the personal communicator device in a more efficient
12 manner that will provide more information to the called party and relieve the calling party
13 of inconvenience.
14

15 Of course caller id blocking options could be employed as previously described in
16 this application. Other variants of these "meet me" services could also easily employ a
17 caller id detector to transmit the caller identifying data automatically. For sake of brevity,
18 these various systems are not described in detail although it is believed that those
19 skilled in the art can adapt the methods described herein.
20

21 AUTO DIALING PERSONAL COMMUNICATOR EMBODIMENT 22

23 The paging receiver device could also be a dedicated paging receiver with a
24 DTMF signal generator such as seen in US 4,490,579 issued to Godoshian, 5,099,507
25 issued to Mukai et al. 5,280,516 issued to Jang or 5,212,721 issued to DeLuca et al.,
26 incorporated herein by reference. Received caller id data received could be used to
27 generate a dialing signal in an acoustically coupleable dialer device, or via an external
28 telephone line connector within the called party personal communicator. The received
29 caller identifying data could be digital data representative of numeric information
30

1 corresponding to the call-back number of the calling party. Such received digital data
2 could be applied to a DTMF generator to output a dialing signal.

3
4 Alternatively, the received caller identifying data could be audible DTMF signals
5 ~~which~~ that were recorded as audible signals at the message center after manual entry
6 by a calling party. In another embodiment, textual caller id data could be converted to
7 audible DTMF signals at the message center to be transferred to a voice-paging center
8 as audible signals. Upon receipt at the paging center, the audible signals could be
9 transmitted to a personal communication device along with any optional data. The
10 audible DTMF sounds and optional data could be stored and replayed through a
11 speaker.

12
13 Alternatively the DTMF sounds could be converted to a dial signal for a cellular
14 telephone device or via a telephone line connector. The received audible DTMF signals
15 could be applied to a DTMF decoder and character generator within the personal
16 communicator device to display the audible DTMF sounds received. This method could
17 be particularly useful in that the personal communication device would not require a
18 DTMF generator to create a dialing signal. In addition, audible DTMF sounds could be
19 prestored into a personal communication device or dialing apparatus by means of a
20 computer download interface that releasably electrically or acoustically coupled to a
21 dialing apparatus or personal communicator with a memory ~~means~~, controller ~~means~~
22 and data input receiver receiving means.

23
24 These audible DTMF sounds could then be used as described previously to
25 generate an audible dial signal for acoustical coupling, or converted to an electrical
26 signal for other dialing ~~means~~.

27
28 In a different embodiment, the received and stored DTMF sounds could be
29 applied to a DTMF decoder and character generator and optional text to speech unit to
30 display or annunciate the data received. The personal communicator or dialing

1 apparatus could interpret the stored audible DTMF signals within the personal
2 communicator or dialing device and generate a display or voice annunciation of the
3 telephone number information. This could be accomplished by a standard DTMF
4 decoder circuit and character generator such as described in US Patent 4,882,750
5 issued to Henderson et al. incorporated herein by reference and a text to speech unit
6 well known to those skilled in the art.

7
8 This improvement could be useful in autodialer devices such as described in this
9 patent. For example, a circuit commonly used to store voice signals such as the Radio
10 Shack, part number 276-1324 or Radio Shack part number 276-1325 could be used to
11 store and replay the received DTMF signals through a transducer in a conventional
12 autodialer. The audible DTMF signal could be received by a sound input ~~means~~ which
13 was connected to the circuit during a programming mode. During a replay mode, the
14 DTMF ~~sounds~~ signals previously programmed could be replayed through a transducer
15 attached to the autodialer, or the DTMF ~~sounds~~ signals could be transferred to a
16 transmitting means that could generate the DTMF signal to a communication link such
17 as in a cellular or landline communication system.

18 19 COMBINED PAGER / RADIOTELEPHONE EMBODIMENT

20
21 The paging receiver device could alternatively be contained within a cellular
22 telephone device as in US 5,117,449 issued to Metroka et al. or in US 5,148,473 issued
23 to Freeland et al. in which a paging and cellular radio telephone function are combined
24 in a single device. These patents are also incorporated herein by reference.

25
26 When the paged party receives a page, the caller id data can be stored for later
27 use and an alert tone, a vibration, a visual indication or a voice message can alert the
28 called party who may be engaged in a telephone conversation on the cellular telephone.
29 When the paged party wishes to return the call from the calling party after hanging up,
30 the stored caller id data can be selected and recalled for dialing at the touch of a button.

1
2 Of particular utility, alphanumeric caller id data received can textually identify a
3 calling party to aid in selection of a desired callback number and the included numeric
4 caller id information can be utilized to generate a dialing signal. In a number only caller
5 id transmission the number only will be supplied to the combined pager/radiotelephone.
6 In this case, the received numeric information can be transferred to a comparing means
7 and compared against a prestored directory in the device. In this manner, the paged
8 party can more easily identify the caller and return the call more efficiently. US
9 4,924,496 issued to Figa describes one such method in greater detail and has already
10 been incorporated herein by reference.

11 12 PCMCIA PAGING RECEIVER EMBODIMENT

13
14 Another alternative embodiment using the claimed invention can be seen in US
15 5,043,721 issued to May ~~which~~ that discloses a paging accessory using a PCMCIA
16 interface which is connected to a personal computer or integrated in a computing
17 device. This patent is incorporated herein by reference.

18 19 STORED-VOICE PAGING RECEIVER AND SYSTEM EMBODIMENT

20
21 ~~The following discussion is specifically related to stored voice paging~~
22 ~~receivers and paging systems.~~

23
24 ~~In stored voice paging receivers it is possible to receive voice messages~~
25 ~~which may be heard by a called party. In the prior art systems is shown a method~~
26 ~~in which voice messages may be stored at a paging center from a calling party~~
27 ~~and then the message may be transmitted to a paging receiver. These systems~~
28 ~~typically include pager ID control data along with any voice message for playback~~
29 ~~through a codec unit at the paging receiver. The codec converts the data received~~
30 ~~into an audio reproduction of the calling parties voice message that may be heard~~

1 ~~from a speaker or sound output device in the paging receiver.~~

2
3 ~~Such devices are useful in that the called party may have a voice message~~
4 ~~delivered to them rather than having to call in to a message center or voice mail~~
5 ~~center.~~

6
7 ~~However, in part, the popularity of such devices has been limited in that~~
8 ~~there is no means for preventing other people to whom messages are not~~
9 ~~intended from hearing voice messages of a personal or confidential nature if the~~
10 ~~message is replayed by the recipient in their presence.~~

11
12 ~~It is difficult for the called party to ascertain the identity of the calling party~~
13 ~~prior to playing the message received to know who is calling prior to~~
14 ~~broadcasting the message in the presence of others in the nearby area. To review~~
15 ~~a stored message the user was required to press play and the voice message was~~
16 ~~annunciated from an integrated speaker in a communication device. This was~~
17 ~~impractical for a called party that was engaged in a meeting that wanted to~~
18 ~~discretely listen to an urgent message without having to leave or have other~~
19 ~~persons hear the message. In addition the previous stored voice paging receivers~~
20 ~~gave no visual indication of who was calling.~~

21
22 ~~The previous stored voice paging receivers stored messages received~~
23 ~~based on the time the messages were received. This required that the messages~~
24 ~~had to be reviewed in the same order regardless of the possibility that an urgent~~
25 ~~message may not be heard until the very end of message review. This was very~~
26 ~~inconvenient if the message required a prompt reply from the called party. In US~~
27 ~~5,153,579 issued to Bennett et al. is described a method of fast forwarding~~
28 ~~through messages stored chronologically. This method, though useful, requires a~~
29 ~~user to sequentially listen to parts of all messages preceding a possible urgent~~
30 ~~message received.~~

1
2 In this invention is further shown a novel means in which voice messages
3 received may be selectively broadcast or heard confidentially based upon the
4 caller identifying data received. The stored voice communication device and
5 invention herein include a method of selectively determining how voice messages
6 are stored and annunciated using source identifier information, a comparator in
7 the communication device and called party preferences for annunciation
8 determined by a called party.

9
10 Another object is to provide a stored voice communication device which
11 shows a method of converting caller identifying information into audible speech
12 signals for a called party.

13
14 Another object is to provide an improved stored voice communication
15 device that includes a method of transmitting voice message data with source
16 identifier information.

17
18 Another improvement is to provide a more efficient method of
19 fastforwarding and reversing through messages received in such a device than in
20 the prior art.

21
22 Such Caller identifying data received may include textual data representative of
23 caller id data automatically supplied from the PSTN as described previously, or may
24 include some other textual data such as received from a DTMF entry by the caller at a
25 message center or paging center, an E-Mail message or document received with an
26 embedded or compressed voice message, or other data. For example, textual data
27 representing the identity of the sending party could be represented by an E-mail address
28 such as HASHIMOTOK@HCJ.COM. The message could be transmitted to a selective
29 call receiver along with a voice message **which that** was sent by a calling party's
30 personal computer equipped with a sound board with appropriate software. In addition,

1 the caller identifying information could be a particular iconographic representation of the
2 calling party such as described in the Magic Cap software environment using so called
3 Telescript technology available from General Magic and incorporated herein by
4 reference, or a still video image of the calling party transmitted with the voice message
5 by the calling party premises equipment.
6

7 For example, visually displayable images transmitted after the message center
8 device has gone offhook in response to a ringing signal could be received and stored
9 with an associated voice message. One such implementation particularly adapted to
10 simultaneous voice and visual data transmission that is currently being implemented is
11 known as VoiceView, incorporated herein by referenced, and manufactured and
12 licensed by Radish Communications Systems, Inc. out of Boulder, Colorado. VoiceView
13 lets calling parties transmit visual images along with voice data in a standard POTS
14 environment, which in the preferred embodiment could be captured and stored in a
15 memory means at the message center for later transmission to a paging receiver or
16 personal communication device. Alternatively, in an ISDN environment, simultaneous
17 transmission of voice and image data could occur in a similar fashion such that
18 message or caller identifying visual data could be stored along with a voice message for
19 later transmission to a communication device.
20

21 This information could be displayed on a display member upon receipt of the
22 message at the stored voice communication device in advance of annunciating, or
23 simultaneous with, annunciation of the voice message.
24

25 Alternatively, the caller identifying information could be used to generate an
26 audible alert means such as prestored sound data contained within the communication
27 device and applied to a comparing means that corresponds to choices made by the
28 called party. Or received caller identifying data could be applied to a text-to-speech
29 generator contained within the paging receiver and annunciated to the called party. US
30 Patent 4,975,693 issued to Davis et al. is incorporated herein by reference.

1 Alternatively, the caller identifying data received at a paging center or message
2 center could be applied to a data generator which would compare the caller identifying
3 data received and generate predetermined character strings for transmission to a
4 communication device such as described in US 4,962,377 issued to Wallace et al. and
5 incorporated herein by reference.

6
7 Alternatively, the received textual data could be converted to a text to speech
8 converter at the paging center prior to transmission to the stored voice communication
9 device.

10
11 Upon receipt of a message at the communication device, only the caller
12 identifying data ~~would~~ may be displayed or annunciated prior to annunciation of the
13 voice message after selection by the called party. In addition, such voice messages
14 received from certain parties could be marked as of a confidential nature by the calling
15 party so that a password would be required by the called party to hear the message.

16
17 In another preferred embodiment, the personal message center could comprise a
18 voice mail center, a personal computer or a conventional telephone answering machine
19 as previously described and well known in the art. In such systems, the received caller
20 id data could be used with a comparing means at the voice mail center, personal
21 computer or conventional telephone answering machine to selectively transmit
22 associated voice message data without the caller identifying data. Such a feature is a
23 substantial improvement over existing paging systems. This is a departure over the prior
24 art in that prior art voice message systems do not transmit voice data to conventional
25 stored voice paging receivers. One of the main advantages of such an approach is that
26 the cost of the stored-voice paging receiver is reduced because there are is no display
27 ~~means~~ required in the voice paging receiver.

28
29 Alternatively, the called party could preselect which calling parties could require a
30 password upon receipt and prior to playback. Callers from a particular calling group

1 could be assigned with an automatic annunciation attribute in which any received calls
2 from this group would automatically be broadcast, no matter when the message was
3 received. See US Patent 5,073,767 issued to Holmes et al. and US Patent 5,146,217
4 issued to Holmes et al. ~~which~~ that are incorporated herein by reference.

5
6 In one embodiment the stored voice communication device may receive all voice
7 messages and based upon the caller identifying data or password data also received,
8 may selectively broadcast through a speaker or playback only through a sound output
9 accessory such as an earphone, based upon the desired mode of annunciation
10 predetermined by the called party with annunciation mode instructions. Such instructions
11 could be as data associated with prestored caller identifying data and the voice
12 message, or by an annunciation mode switch that was connectable to a comparing
13 means.

14
15 If for example, a message received was determined to be of a private nature not
16 available for broadcast, the message could not be heard unless an earphone was first
17 attached to the communication device and the message was selected for playback.
18 Alternatively, the communication device could sense that the earphone was attached
19 and automatically playback the message through the earphone without any further
20 selection. See US Patent 5,075,684 issued to DeLuca and incorporated herein by
21 reference.

22
23 In addition, it may be useful for messages received and stored in the personal
24 communication device to be transferred for archival at a personal computer. Such a
25 personal communicator could be fitted with a serial, parallel, infrared or other
26 communication link and appropriate data transfer capability so that received messages
27 could be transferred to another device for speech to text transcription, archival voice
28 message storage or other functions.

1 The stored voice communications device includes a means for receiving
2 transmitted voice messages, receiver identifying control information, and source
3 identifier information such as caller id, ANI, synthesized caller id, DTMF, image, or the
4 like. Further the device may include a first audio output **means** such as an integrated
5 speaker, an optional second audio output **means** such as an earphone jack, a third
6 optional text to speech output **means** and a codec **means** to convert data received into
7 audible voice data. Further the device may include a selection and storage **medium**
8 **means** for pre-storing called party annunciation selections, and a comparing means to
9 match caller-identifying data received with the prestored called party annunciation
10 preferences.

11
12 A first switch **means** allows a received voice messages to be delivered using the
13 first audio output **means** by default, unless otherwise directed by prestored called party
14 preferences.

15
16 A second switch **means** allows received voice messages to be delivered using
17 the second output **means** by default, unless otherwise directed by prestored called party
18 preferences.

19
20 A third switch **means** allows **received** caller identifying data received to be
21 delivered to a text to speech converter **tion means**, although it is recognized that such
22 data could also be applied to such a converter **tion means** automatically by default
23 rather than based on the switching means. US Patent 4,742,516 issued to Yamaguchi
24 shows one method of text to speech translation and is incorporated herein by reference.
25 Another US Patent 4,716,583 issued to Groner shows another method of text to speech
26 translation and is also incorporated herein by reference.

27
28 The stored voice paging receiver also includes a selection and storage **medium**
29 **means** to allow a user to predetermine which corresponding source identifiers will utilize
30 the first audio output **means**, the second audio output **means** or the third text to speech

1 **conversion means.** In addition, based upon the caller identifying data received, the
2 communication device could determine which order voice messages would be stored
3 and accessed in a message storage **medium means.** For example, all the messages
4 marked urgent could be accessible first, or the messages could be retrievable based
5 upon the time sent, or based on the identity of the caller. All callers that were determined
6 to be family members may be prioritized differently than callers that were business
7 contacts.

8
9 A password means in the communication device allows for preselection of a
10 password by the called communicant and entry of a password prior to annunciation of
11 messages determined to be from a calling party that may be of a private nature.

12
13 A comparator **means** in the stored voice communication device compares the
14 received and/or stored voice message source identifier with predetermined user
15 preferences and stores and delivers the received messages based on the
16 predetermined user preferences.

17
18 Further as previously described, the stored voice personal communicator could
19 also include a dial function in which the speaker or transducer used to annunciate voice
20 messages could also be used to acoustically couple the communicator and to generate
21 a dial signal as has been described hereinbefore. Audible DTMF signals received at the
22 stored-voice paging receiver, or digital numeric data converted to DTMF at the
23 communicator could generate a dialing signal.

24
25 In Figure 1b is shown an improved stored-voice paging receiver with a display for
26 caller-identifying textual or image data and a text-to-speech unit for converting textual
27 data received into audible voice signals. Also the device may include a coincidence
28 detector to compare caller identifying data received with prestored data records.

1 In the functional block diagram in Figures 1a, 1b and 1c the paging receiver
2 1010 of the ~~present invention~~ preferred embodiments includes a receiver ing means
3 1012, a decoder ing-controll_r ing means 1014, a memory means 1050, an audio
4 amplifier 1040, a sound output means 1037, an input switch module 1042, an energy
5 conservation means 1020, and a converting means 1038. An antenna 1024 receives
6 paging information in the form of selective call signals, information comprised of speech
7 signals representative of a voice message and information comprised of caller
8 identification data for display or annunciation before, during or after annunciation of the
9 voice message. The antenna 1024 is coupled to receiver ing means 1012 that is
10 subject to the control of decoder 1014. The decoder 1014 not only controls receiver ing
11 ~~means-1012~~, but may also operate receiver ing means-1012 on an intermittent basis to
12 extend the life of battery 1016 through energy conservation means 1020. The receiver
13 ing means1012 detects the presence of electromagnetic energy representing the
14 paging information and applies the information to the converting means such as
15 coder-decoder 1038. Operating under control from decoder 1014 (line 1045), the
16 coder-decoder 1038 converts the received signals, such as an audio speech signal to a
17 stream of binary bits and reconverts the stored binary bits to a replica of the original
18 received analog signal, such as synthesized audio speech signals. A microcomputer
19 1026 functions as the decoder 1014 and is comprised of a microprocessor 1028 and a
20 read only memory (ROM) 1030. ROM 1030 includes the necessary instructions to
21 operate microprocessor 1028 to perform the functions as described below. The
22 microcomputer 1026 uses microprocessor 1028 as a software decoder for processing
23 the received signals in real time according to predetermined software routines. Such
24 routines could provide for detection of specific demarcation codes that distinguish audio
25 or textual caller identification data from audio voice messages for storage, annunciation
26 and replay.

27
28 After the paging receiver is selectively identified, microprocessor 1028 accesses
29 ROM 1030 for determining the correct instructions contained in that memory for
30 processing the received signals, converting the analog voice signals to digital form,

1 storing the digital form of the voice signal, storing the caller identification data, displaying
2 the caller identification data on the display **means**1077 and other functions. For
3 example, text to speech synthesis **means** 1075 can convert bit representations of textual
4 caller identification data received with voice data into synthesized voice signals to be
5 annunciated through audio amplifier 1040 and sound output **means** 1037 under the
6 direction of microprocessor 1026 and input switch module 1042. For example, upon
7 hearing a default alert signal from sound output **means** 1037 indicating receipt of a
8 message, the subscriber could press "PLAY" 1056 and the synthesized voice
9 annunciation of caller identification information would be retrieved from the memory
10 **means** and annunciated, such as "John Smith - 555-1212 called". Then upon a second
11 depression of the "PLAY" button, the stored voice message may be retrieved from the
12 memory **means** 1050 and replayed for the subscriber. In another embodiment, caller
13 identification data received could be displayed on a display **means** 1077 when a
14 message was received, or in response to scrolling through a list of messages previously
15 received and selected using key input selector 1061, touch-screen input from display
16 **means** 1077 or other keyboard selections and software as is known in the art.

17
18 Upon selection of a particular caller identifying record, the microcomputer 1026
19 could retrieve the corresponding voice message from the memory **means** 1050 for
20 annunciation. Additionally under the direction of the microcomputer 1026, a coincidence
21 detector **76** 1097 could be employed to compare caller identifying data with prestored
22 data records in memory **means** 1050. Upon determining a matching record,
23 microcomputer 1026 could cause caller identifying data and / or any associated record
24 or annunciation alert to be automatically displayed on display **means** 1077 or
25 annunciated using sound output **means** 1037. Additionally, key input module 1042
26 could include a synthesize mode key 1078 in which textual data entered by keyboard
27 1053, stored on memory **means** 1050 or received from receiver **ing** **means** 1012 could
28 be selectively converted from text-to-speech for annunciation.
29
30

1 In the illustrated embodiment, the coder-decoder 1038 (hereinafter referred to as
2 CODEC) provides for the digital-to-analog and analog-to-digital conversion of speech
3 signals. The CODEC 1038, such as an adaptive delta modulator, converts or encodes
4 an audio input signal (line 44) to a digital data stream (line 1046) for storage in memory
5 **means** 1050, and reconverts or decodes a digital data stream (line 1048) to reconstruct
6 an audio signal (line 1021). Under control of decoder 1014, the CODEC's digital output
7 is stored in memory 1050 and retrieved on line 1048 to reconstruct a synthesized audio
8 signal on line 1021, thus closely replicating the real time audio signal in both amplitude
9 and frequency. One example of such a coder-decoder is disclosed by N.S. Jayant in the
10 publication "Adaptive Delta Modulation with a One-Bit Memory", Bell System Technical
11 Journal, Vol. 49, No. 2, Mar. 1970. To conserve power, most of the CODEC 1038 is
12 turned off when there are no read/write operations to the memory. The receiver **ing**
13 **means** 1012 is further coupled by line 1023 to an audio amplifier 1040. Operating in
14 response to decoder 1014, the real time audio signal on line 1023 is applied to audio
15 amplifier 1040 **that which** supplies the analog signals to sound output **means** 1037. In
16 particular, decoder 1014 controls audio amplifier 1040 via line 1062 to apply either the
17 real time audio signal on line 1023 or the synthesized audio signal on line 1021 to sound
18 output **means** 1037.

19
20 Decoder 1014 is coupled to memory **means** 1050 **that which** serves to include
21 information for decoding the received information and for storing information received
22 from CODEC 1038. The CODEC 1038 provides the analog-to-digital conversion in
23 memory 1050 as digital voice messages. In this embodiment each digital voice message
24 is stored in conjunction with associated caller identifying data. As previously described,
25 such data could be textual, synthesized audio or graphical data. This associated caller
26 identifying data can be used to selectively access voice message records before
27 selecting a particular voice record for replay. A plurality of digital voice messages can be
28 stored in memory 1050. The decoder 1014 functions to alert the paging user, and to
29 store, recall, and playback voice messages, as well as to store, recall, and playback
30 caller identification data.

1
2 The paging receiver of Figures 1b and 1c has a capacity of storing voice
3 messages and providing them to audio amplifier 1040 according to the state of a
4 plurality of inputs, such as the state of the control switches of input module 1042, the
5 state of annunciation instructions ascertained by coincidence detector ~~76~~ 1097 and
6 prestored data records contained in memory ~~means-77~~ 1050, and particular encoded
7 annunciation instructions received by receiver ing means 1012 that comprise part of the
8 message data.

9
10 A switch interface 1018 provides input capability for control switches 1054-1078
11 and keyboard 1053. Display ~~means~~ 1077 also may employ a switch interface ~~means~~ to
12 allow for touch screen selection for data input, menu selection and the like. Illustratively,
13 control switch 1054 is an on/off switch for controlling power from battery 1016. Control
14 switch 1056 is a play switch for playing back voice messages previously digitized and
15 stored in memory 1050. Control switch 1058 is a reset switch to reset the paging
16 receiver system and to monitor any real time audio signals currently being received.
17 Control switch 1060 is a mode switch for operating the decoder in one of three modes.
18 These modes are the silent, push to listen (PTL) and normal modes.

19
20 The battery 1016 is shown connected to decoder 1014 through switch interface
21 1018. Battery 1016 provides power to decoder 1014 through an energy conservation
22 means 1020, such as a DC to DC converter. Decoder 1014 is additionally connected to
23 a code memory 1022 ~~that which~~ stores predetermined address information to which the
24 paging receiver is responsive. Code memory ~~50~~ 1022 can also store such information
25 as the sampling rate for digitizing the received audio messages. Output 1062 from
26 decoder 1014 controls whether real time audio signals on line 1023 from receiver ing
27 ~~means~~ 1012 or synthesized audio signals on line 1021 from CODEC 1038 are applied
28 to audio speaker 1037. Communication between receiver ing means 1012 and decoder
29 1014 is achieved via line 1047. Selective call signals for the decoder 1014 are received
30 by receiver ing means 1012 and passed to decoder 1014 through line 1047.

1
2 The operation of the paging receiver shown in Figure 1b is such that the receiver
3 **ing means 1012** is capable of receiving messages in any of several message formats
4 through antenna **1024**. The decoder **1014** responds to the received signals to analyze
5 the data and select one of several decoding schemes, for appropriately decoding the
6 incoming information received by receiver **ing means 1012**. As is well known with
7 paging devices, the resulting decoded signal is tested for comparison with a designated
8 pager address contained in code memory **1022**. On detecting correspondence between
9 the received and decoded signal and the address in code memory **1022**, the decoder
10 **1014** instructs the CODEC **1038** to digitize the real time analog voice signals that follows
11 for storage in one memory **1050**. The **inventions preferred embodiments** described
12 herein are not specifically limited to analog systems but could also be adapted to a
13 digital stored voice paging system in which voice or image data was transmitted in a
14 compressed or uncompressed format. An alert output signal may be produced by the
15 decoder **1014** to generate an alert indication to the pager user that a message has been
16 received and stored. In particular, the alert output signal from the decoder **1014** is
17 supplied to audio amplifier **1040** to produce an audible signal from the sound output
18 **means 1037** indicative of receipt of a message. Alternatively the decoder **1014** can
19 supply alert signals or data to audio amplifier **1040** and sound output **means 1037**
20 and/or display **means 1077** in response to alert output instructions contained in
21 prestored data records in the memory **means 1050** used in conjunction with coincidence
22 detector **76 1097**, or in response to alert instructions or caller identifying data received
23 as part of the message from receiver **ing means 1012** via line **1047**.
24

25 If the user responds to the message alert, the user has the ability to hear the
26 message in real time, depending upon the position of mode switch **1060**, or has the
27 ability to hear only the associated caller identifying data until the play key **1056** is
28 depressed again. In another alternative embodiment, calls received which are
29 determined to be confidential by the coincidence detector **76 1097** and memory **means**
30 comparing against the received caller identifying data can be inhibited from playback

1 until such time as a personal identification code is entered by the user using the
2 keyboard 1053 or display ~~means~~ 1077 for example. In another embodiment, the
3 message received could include a code with the message data that creates a
4 confidential condition such that a personal identification code must be entered before
5 the particular message can be annunciated. Alternatively, the user could require all
6 messages received to require entry of a personal identification code. Such security
7 features are particularly useful in case the user wishes to prevent other persons in the
8 immediate vicinity from inadvertently hearing confidential messages or in the case
9 where the paging receiver is lost.

10
11 If the mode switch is in the normal mode, upon receipt of a voice message, the
12 user hears an alert followed by the voice message. Simultaneously, the message is
13 stored into a storage area in the memory ~~means~~ 1050, depending upon the bit rate of
14 the CODEC 1038.

15
16 Referring to Figure 1c, ~~a second another~~ embodiment ~~of the present invention~~
17 illustrates a sound input ~~means~~ 1081 which may have an integrated microphone 1082
18 or a releasably connectable sound input ~~means~~ 1083. This allows sound data such as
19 spoken voice or personal computer files such as .WAV files to be uploaded to the
20 paging receiver device 1010 for storage in the memory ~~means~~ 1050 for alert
21 annunciation. Such custom annunciations could be generated in response to particular
22 caller identifying data received as determined by the coincidence detector ~~76~~ 1097 and
23 prestored data records in memory ~~means~~ 1050, or could be stored in code memory for
24 default alert annunciation signals upon receipt of a message or a particular condition
25 within the paging receiver 1010 controlled ~~yy~~ by microcomputer 1026. Input switch
26 module 1042 includes a "RECORD" function key 1079 which can be used to start
27 recording or uploading of any sound through the sound input ~~means~~ 1081 when the
28 paging receiver 1010 is in a sound recording/uploading mode.

1 In addition, Figure 1c includes a DTMF tone decoder **means 1080** which can
2 decode DTMF audio signals received as part of the message data from **receiving means 1012**. The audio signals received can be supplied to the decoder **means 1080**
3 and corresponding numeric textual data can be displayed on the display **means 1077** or
4 supplied to a coincidence detector **76 1097** for comparison against prestored data in
5 memory **means 1050**. Corresponding matching data records can then be annunciated
6 and/or displayed prior to annunciation of the voice message.
7
8

9 In Figure 1d is shown an autodialing type paging receiver in which DTMF data
10 received can be applied to a DTMF tone decoder and text to speech generator in a
11 similar manner as described hereinbefore. ~~In this~~ The ~~embodiments, the inventions~~
12 herein are especially useful in that a display member is not necessary for the user to
13 determine the identity of the calling party as the telephone number may be annunciated.
14 Such a device may be used in a stored voice paging system, in which DTMF entries are
15 manually entered in conjunction with a voice message for transmission to an autodialing
16 type paging receiver. The DTMF tones can be annunciated as voice representations of
17 DTMF digits received. For example, if the DTMF tone detector receives the dual tone
18 frequencies of 1209 Hz and 697 Hz then the text to speech generator will receive
19 instructions from the tone decoder and the synthesized voice annunciation "ONE" will be
20 heard. Different corresponding synthetic voice messages can be stored in ROM in the
21 text to speech generator for each of the various DTMF tone combinations and
22 generated in response to a depression of the "SPEAK" button or automatically
23 generated in response to receipt of a message when decoded by the DTMF tone
24 decoder. The DTMF signals received may be stored in a memory as DTMF audio
25 signals for playback through a sound signal generator and speaker or may be converted
26 to digital representations of the DTMF signals for application to a DTMF generator (not
27 shown) for later redial.
28

29 In one preferred embodiment, textual caller identifying data such as name and
30 telephone number information is received by the **receiving means** along with any

1 associated voice message in a stored voice paging receiver. The microprocessor can
2 apply the received caller id data to a text to speech unit and display **means** for
3 annunciation and display. Each subsequent message received can be stored in a
4 memory **means** contained in a detachable memory as described in Figure 5a. The
5 detachable memory **means** may be a PCMCIA memory card that may allow transfer of
6 voice messages received from a voice mail center for subsequent archiving in a
7 personal computer or the like.

8
9 The stored-voice paging receiver can also have a detachable keyboard or other
10 input **means** to allow for entry of memory records that can be used by a coincidence
11 detector within the pager, as in a copending application. Upon receipt of caller
12 identifying data, the coincidence detector can compare the caller identifying data against
13 prestored memory records to annunciate or display associated caller identifying data
14 prior to annunciation of the voice message received.

15
16 In Figure 3a is shown the prior art method of receiving and transmitting a voice
17 message to a stored-voice paging receiver. In Figure 3b is shown an improvement over
18 the prior art method in which caller-identifying data is received, stored and associated
19 with a voice message for transmittal to a stored-voice paging receiver.

20
21 In Figures 4a through 4e are shown various alternative embodiments in which
22 caller id data can be utilized within a stored voice paging receiver.

23
24 For example, in Figure 4a when a stored voice paging receiver receives a
25 message, a coincidence detector can generate a prestored audio alert. First, the called
26 party enters textual data and a corresponding audio announcement into the pager in
27 advance. In this case, the number 555-1212 could be entered by a data entry **means**
28 into the pager, and a voice entry such as "home office" could be spoken into a sound
29 input accessory, for storage in the pager memory. If the caller id data such as 555-1212
30 were received, a coincidence detector would determine a match with the previously

1 entered number and the previously entered audio alert "home office" would be heard by
2 the called party. Upon depression of a play key, the voice message could be heard. In
3 th case wh re a match with th previously ent red number was not d t rmined,
4 "unknown caller", could be heard. The caller id data could be displayed and upon
5 depression of a play button, the voice message could then be heard.

6
7 In Figure 4b is shown another alternative embodiment in which a voice pager
8 allows a called party to associate certain pin numbers with calling parties. For example,
9 some callers may typically be of a personal or confidential nature. The playback of
10 messages from these callers may require entry of a PIN code prior to annunciation of
11 any message. In this case, a coincidence detector could be employed which analyzes
12 caller id data received and compares against a pre-stored caller list. When a match is
13 determined, particular caller messages would not be heard until the proper PIN code
14 was entered by the calling party. When the correct code was entered, the caller id data
15 could be annunciated or displayed until such time as the play key was depressed. Of
16 course, the caller id data could be inhibited from display or annunciation until such time
17 as the proper pin code was entered by the called party. In this case then, a default alert
18 signal could be generated in response to receipt of a message that did not indicate the
19 identity of the calling party until the pin code was entered properly. Alternatively, the
20 prompt for the pin code entry could be generated by the pager after the receipt, display
21 and annunciation of caller id data but prior to annunciation of the voice message from
22 the calling party.

23
24 In Figure 4c is shown another alternative embodiment in which a voice pager
25 receives DTMF audio signals along with a voice message. The voice pager could
26 distinguish DTMF signals from the voice message data by use of a DTMF tone decoder
27 **means** within the pager. The DTMF tone decoder could generate a corresponding
28 textual or synthesized voice alert corresponding to the caller id of the calling party. In
29 addition, the decoded DTMF signals could be employed with a coincidence detector to
30 display or annunciate previously stored matching data records as previously described

1 in Figure 4a. Further, the received audio DTMF signals received could be used in place
2 of a more conventional DTMF generator to generate a corresponding dialing signal for
3 call back to the calling party.
4

5 In Figure 4d is shown another alternative embodiment in which a voice pager can
6 utilize a text-to-speech unit within the pager to annunciate textual caller identifying data
7 received.
8

9 In Figure 4e is shown another alternative embodiment in which a stored voice
10 pager can operate in one of three different modes: Announce mode in which a
11 coincidence detector is employed against all caller id data received automatically upon
12 receipt; silent mode in which a coincidence detector is employed against all caller id
13 data received only upon depression of a play key; and a broadcast mode in which caller
14 id data is displayed and/or annunciated and the voice data is annunciated automatically,
15 without use of any coincidence detector. For example upon receipt of a message when
16 in the announce mode, a coincidence detector could be employed before an alert signal
17 was generated. Upon detection or non-detection of a matching record, the appropriate
18 alert signal would be generated and the unit would play the associated voice message
19 upon depression of the play key. Upon receipt of a message when in silent mode, the
20 caller id data could be displayed but not annunciated. When the called party scrolled
21 through the messages received by viewing the display of various caller id data
22 associated with voice messages, he could then press a play key and the coincidence
23 detector could generate an appropriate alert signal. If the play key was depressed again,
24 the voice message could be heard by the called party. Alternatively, a single depression
25 of the play key could cause the annunciation of the caller id data and subsequent
26 annunciation of the voice message. If the pager were in broadcast mode, the caller id
27 data could be displayed and the voice message received would be broadcast to be
28 heard by the called party.
29
30

1 In Figure 5a, caller identifying data such as name and number data, particular
2 voice or sound data for message alerting, pin code data, iconographic data such as
3 logos or meaningful graphic images, photo images of a calling party or other data is
4 stored in a memory ~~means~~ that is integral to or detachable from the paging receiver.
5 This data could be transferred from a PCMCIA memory card attached to the pager, or
6 an integrated memory within the pager that received data from an input ~~means~~ such as
7 an infrared, serial or parallel connection with another device, or a data input means
8 integrated in the pager such as a touch screen, sound input accessory, keyboard, or
9 some other means.

10
11 In Figure 5b is shown one embodiment of a display member 2308) within a
12 stored voice paging receiver (2307) in which caller identifying information can be
13 scrolled through prior to selecting a particular message for annunciation. Such a display
14 could be of the type known as a touch screen which allowed also for programming of
15 softkeys for various functions to be performed such as scrolling, data entry, message
16 selection and the like ~~as for example in~~. The particular urgency of a message received
17 could be indicated on such a display by a flashing iconographic indicator (2301), the
18 caller id name and number data (2304) could be displayed, the duration of the voice
19 message received could be shown (2303) and the time the message was received could
20 be displayed (2302). In such cases where blocked caller id indicators were received,
21 default message such as "blocked" (2306) or "unknown" could be displayed.

22
23 In Figure 5c is shown a caller id memory address register in which caller id data
24 associated with voice messages received can be stored for later recall and display in a
25 stored voice pager. This memory for the caller id data could be contiguous or separate
26 from the memory used for the voice messages received and could be applied to a
27 display as described previously. The voice message stored in memory can be
28 annunciated after selection of a displayed caller identifying record by the called party.

1 In addition, fax header or E-mail information received at the message center
2 could be used alternatively as caller identifying information. Figures 6a and 6b
3 summarize one embodiment of this concept. The message center could, for
4 example, upon detection of a CNG tone, store conventional fax header
5 information received for retransmission to a paging center or for transmission to
6 a personal communicator directly from a paging transmitter integral or directly
7 connected to the message center. The fax header or Email information could be
8 transmitted to a personal communicator device that has prestored caller data
9 contained in a memory along with a comparing means. The caller data could
10 include a variety of information corresponding to frequent callers, including
11 name, address, telephone number, fax number, and E mail addresses for each
12 calling party. Additionally, a prestored voice annunciation corresponding to the
13 identity of a caller or a prestored video image representative of the calling party
14 could also be included in each caller record. Upon detection of a coincidence
15 between the fax or E mail or other data received, the other associated data from
16 the corresponding data record could be made available to the called party.

17
18 ~~Additional art incorporated herein by reference includes the following:~~

19
20 ~~Brother Intellifax 780 MC Owners manual~~

21
22 Figure 11 provides a simplified block diagram of a telephone network, in
23 accordance with the prior art, which will be utilized to describe some fundamentals of
24 telephony which may be necessary to understand the **present** invention herein. As is
25 shown, telephone network 9 can be utilized to allow call-originator 11 to utilize telephone
26 13 to place a telephone call to call-receiver 15, which utilizes telephone 17 to receive
27 such a call. Fairly elaborate switching networks 19 and 21 connect call-originator 11 and
28 call-originator 15 to central office 23 of telephone network 9.

1 In central office 23, there is a source of electrical current, identified as talk battery
2 25, which is utilized to determine whether or not a particular telephone (i.e., telephone
3 13 or 15) is in the "on-hook" or "off-hook" condition. If the handset of a particular
4 telephone is lifted from the cradle of the telephone, the telephone goes from an on-hook
5 condition to an off-hook condition. When a particular telephone is in an off-hook
6 condition, dial tone generator 27 at central office 23 of telephone network 9 is utilized to
7 generate an audible dial tone which indicates to the telephone operator that an outgoing
8 call may be initiated. For example, call-originator 11 may lift the handset from the cradle
9 of telephone 13, and receive an audible dial tone through the operation of dial tone
10 generator 27 and central office 23.

11
12 After call-originator 11 dials the telephone number of call-receiver 15, ring
13 generator 29 at central office 23 generates a plurality of ring signals ~~which~~ that are sent
14 through switching network 21 to telephone 17 to alert call-receiver 15 that a call is
15 incoming. Once call-receiver 15 lifts his or her handset off of the cradle of telephone 17,
16 voice path 31 is established between call-originator 11 and call-receiver 15.

17
18 In accordance with current Bell standards, caller-identification information may be
19 transmitted, automatically, between call-originator 11 and call-receiver 15, through
20 telephone network 9, in a manner ~~which~~ that will be described below with reference to
21 Figures 12a, 12b, and 12c. In the United States of America, in accordance with the
22 Bellcore Specification No. 220, the transmission must occur between the first and
23 second rings. In Figure 12a, such caller-identification information signals transmitted to
24 call-receiver 15 are depicted in simplified form, with caller-identification information 39
25 occurring between first ring 35 and second ring 37. The Bellcore Specification requires
26 that caller-identification information 39 occur at least 500 milliseconds after first ring 35
27 ceases. Thus, the signal ~~which~~ that represents the caller-identification information will
28 begin transmission one-half of one second, or longer, after the termination of first ring
29 35. Caller-identification information 39 is transmitted serially, utilizing a frequency-shift-
30 keying technique, which is well known in the prior art.

1
2 The Bellcore Specification also requires that the transmission of caller-
3 identification information 39 end at least 427 milliseconds prior to the commencement of
4 second ring 37. Typically, there is a four second interval between first ring 35 and
5 second ring 37, so a significant amount of time is available for the communication of
6 caller-identification information. Altogether, there is available a period of 2,570
7 milliseconds for the transmission of caller-identification information, not including pauses
8 required by the Bellcore Specification (such pauses or periods of silence are required at
9 the beginning and end of the message). At 1,200 baud, this message interval is
10 sufficient to transmit 3,084 bits, or 308 bytes.

11
12 The blocks of data which make-up the caller-identification information 39 is set
13 forth in block diagram form in Figure 12b. The first component of the caller-identification
14 information is a synchronization signal 41 which comprises a channel seizure signal
15 having a duration of 250 milliseconds of frequency-shift-keying encoding of a bit pattern
16 of alternating zeros and ones. Such a synchronization signal is utilized to provide a
17 recognizable pattern to alert applicable caller-identification decoding equipment that
18 caller-identification information follows. Pre-message pause 43 follows synchronization
19 signal 41, and has a duration of 150 milliseconds, plus or minus 25 milliseconds. The
20 purpose of such a pre-message pause 43 is to condition the receiver for the data ~~which~~
21 that follows.

22
23 Next, message-type identifier 45 follows synchronization signal 41. Message type
24 identifier 45 is typically one byte of data ~~which~~ that identifies the type of caller-
25 identification message which is being sent. There are two basic types of caller-
26 identification messages, including: (1) only numeric data, which identifies the telephone
27 number for the source of the telephone call; and (2) numeric data, which identifies a
28 telephone number for the source of the telephone call, along with hexadecimal
29 representation of alphabetic characters that contain the directory name associated with
30 the telephone number of the source telephone. In accordance with the Bellcore

1 Standard, 04 hexadecimal identifies a single message caller-identification message,
2 while 80 hexadecimal identifies a caller-identification message ~~which~~ that includes both
3 a telephone number and a name.
4

5 Next, message byte count 47 provides an indication of the total length of the
6 caller-identification information. This is important because the directory name associated
7 with the source telephone number will have a different length for each particular name.
8

9 Thereafter, sub-message type 49 identifies the type of submessage ~~which~~ that
10 is transmitted with the caller-identification information. Sub-message link 51 identifies
11 the length of the sub-message which follows.
12

13 Message 53 consists of information ~~which~~ that is described in more detail below
14 with respect to Figure 12c. Message 53 is followed by checksum byte 55 ~~which~~ that, in
15 accordance with the prior art techniques, provides a checksum total to ensure that data
16 received has not been lost or altered in any way during the transmission. The receiving
17 unit of a caller-identification decoder generates a checksum in response to the entire
18 caller-identification bit stream, and thereafter compares this checksum with checksum
19 byte 55. If these checksums match, then no bits were lost in the transmission; however,
20 if the checksum generated by the caller-identification decoder does not match checksum
21 byte 55 received at the decoder, then one or more data bits may have been lost in the
22 transmission, and the information may be unreliable or unusable.
23

24 The final component of a caller-identification message is post-message pause
25 57, which is a quiescent period prior to second ring 37 of Figure 12a.
26

27 With reference now to Figure 12c, message 53 will be described in greater detail.
28 The first eight bits of the message include month bits "MM", day bits "DD", hour bits
29 "HH", and minute bits "MM". These eight bits provide the month and date, along with the
30

1 hour and minute, in military time, of the telephone call. Note that no information is
2 provided regarding the year.

3
4 The next portion of message 53 is either (1) a ten digit telephone number, or (2)
5 a single digit ~~which~~ that identifies that caller-identification information is either (a) not
6 available, or (b) has been blocked to maintain the caller's privacy.

7
8 If caller-identification information is not available, the ASCII character "0" is
9 transmitted. If the caller-identification information has been blocked for reasons of
10 privacy, the character P is transmitted. However, if the caller-identification information is
11 neither unavailable nor blocked, then a ten digit bit stream follows. The first three bits,
12 "AAA" identify the area code; the next three bits, "PPP", identifying the prefix; and the
13 final four bits, "EEEE", identify the exchange. For example, if the source phone number
14 is 702-731-1113, then AAA = 702, PPP = 731, and EEEE = 1113.

15
16 The next portion of message 53 is caller-identification information which identifies
17 the name associated with the particular preceding telephone number. If this information
18 is unavailable, a single character "0" is provided. If this information is blocked for
19 reasons of privacy, a single character "P" is provided. However, if this information is
20 both available and not blocked, a multi-bit string follows which sets forth a name
21 associated with the particular preceding telephone number (for example, "John Doe").

22
23 Therefore, considered broadly, caller-identification information may be solely data
24 which identifies a telephone number associated with the telephone unit utilized to place
25 a call, or the telephone number associated with the telephone unit utilized to place the
26 call in combination with alphabetic characters identifying a name associated with that
27 particular number in a telephone directory (i.e., a telephone directory data base). In
28 either event, whether the directory name is provided or not, this information can be
29 considered to be the "caller-identification information." The particular details of the
30 caller-identification standards in the United Statess of America are set forth in the

1 publications of the Bell Communications Research Laboratories, which are identified as
2 "Bellcore", and include (1) Technical Reference No. TR-TSY-00032, issued November
3 1, 1986, and entitled "CLASS(sm) Feature: Bulk Calling Line Information"; (2) Technical
4 Reference No. TR-TSY-000030, issued January 1, 1990, entitled "CLASS(sm) Feature:
5 Calling Number Delivery"; and (3) Technical Reference No. TANWT-001188, issued
6 March 1, 1991, entitled "CLASS(sm) Calling Name Delivery and Related Features
7 Generic Requirements"; all of which are incorporated herewith by reference as if fully set
8 forth.

9
10 Figure 13 depicts one embodiment ~~of the present invention~~ wherein numeric
11 paging network 61 is utilized to receive caller-identification information via interaction
12 with telephone network 9 in response to call-originator 11 communicating through
13 telephone network 9 with central office 59 of numeric paging network 61. In this
14 configuration, numeric paging network 61 may be utilized to transmit the numeric
15 portions of caller-identification information, and not the alphanumeric portions. Figure 13
16 includes telephone network 9, which includes components identical to those discussed
17 above in connection with Figure 11, with the only difference being that a page request
18 telephone call is received by call receiver 15, which is located within numeric paging
19 network central office 59. Between the first and second rings received by call receiver
20 15, the caller-identification information is routed through telephone 17 to decoder 63.

21
22 Decoder 63 comprises a conventional caller-identification decoder capable of
23 receiving the frequency-shift-keyed caller-identification signal, and decoding it into a bit
24 stream representative of the information described above in connection with Figures 12b
25 and 12c. The portion of information corresponding to the telephone number of particular
26 telephone 13 being utilized by call originator 11 is provided as an input to decoder 63.
27 Additionally, telephone 17 is utilized to receive any optional numeric message **which**
28 **that** is input by call-originator 11 and transmitted over voice path 31 during the time
29 interval provided.
30

1 The decoded numeric information which corresponds to the telephone number of
2 the telephone utilized by call-originator 11, and any numeric message input by call-
3 originator 11, are assembled in message buffer 65, which pushes the serial bit stream to
4 transmitter 67 in accordance with a predefined protocol. The **present** invention may
5 utilize the predefined communication protocol identified as the Post Office Code
6 Standardization Advisory Group (POCSAG) code. Such a code comports with the
7 formats provided by the International Committee CCIR, which has standardized
8 message coding for radio frequency transmissions. Both the POCSAG code and CCIR
9 standards are well known by those skilled in the art, and both are incorporated herein by
10 reference as if fully set forth, but are not essential to the main concepts of the **present**
11 **invention embodiments**.

12
13 Transmitter 67 provides a radio frequency communication link 69 **which that**
14 communicates information from numeric paging network central office 59 to personal
15 communication device 71. Personal communications device 61 may be a receive-only
16 device, such as a paging device, or a more sophisticated bi-directional communication
17 device, such as a personal communication device or personal digital assistant, such as
18 the personal digital assistant sold under the trademark "**Macintosh** **Macintosh**
19 **Newton**" by Apple Computer, or the product sold by AT&T under the trademark "EO".
20 Preferably, personal communication device 71 at least includes display 73, which is
21 utilized to display information based, at least in-part, upon information contained within a
22 database resident within personal communication device 71, or in-part upon information
23 transmitted over radio frequency communication link 69 from central office 59 of numeric
24 paging network 61.

25
26 Figure 14 provides a block diagram representation of another embodiment **of the**
27 **present invention** wherein alphanumeric paging network 75 is utilized to receive caller-
28 identification information. Such caller-identification information which may be received
29 includes numeric information corresponding to the telephone number of telephone 13
30 utilized by call originator 11 to engage alphanumeric paging network 75, and

1 alphanumeric text which identifies the "entity" listed in a telephone directory (i.e., a
2 database) as the owner of the particular telephone number assigned to telephone 13.
3 Call-receiver 15 receives the incoming call through switching network 21 on behalf of
4 alphanumeric paging network 75. Call-receiver 15 is located within alphanumeric paging
5 network central office 77.

6
7 The caller-identification information is routed from telephone 17 to decoder 79,
8 where it is converted from the frequency-shift-key format transmitted within telephone
9 network 9, to an acceptable binary or hexadecimal format. Such decoded caller-
10 identification information includes numeric caller-identification information which
11 corresponds to telephone 13 utilized by call-originator 11 to engage alphanumeric
12 paging network 75, as well as alphanumeric textual information which identifies the
13 "entity", as listed within the telephone directory database, which has ownership of that
14 particular telephone number, along with other additional formatting information which
15 was described above in connection with Figures 12a, 12b, and 12c.

16
17 This decoded caller-identification information is pushed from decoder 79 to
18 message buffer 81, and may also be provided to automated checking routine 83.
19 Automated checking routine 83 receives caller-identification information and formulates
20 a textual or synthesized voice query, which may then be utilized to communicate with
21 call-originator 11 to verify the telephone number for telephone 13 (which was derived
22 from the caller-identification information) as well as the "entity" identity (which was also
23 derived from the caller-identification information). The query may include the following
24 questions:

25
26 (1) The caller-identification information provided to us through the telephone
27 network indicates that the telephone number from which you are placing this call is AAA-
28 PPP-EEEE; please depress your telephone key pad number "1" if this information is
29 correct, or depress telephone key pad "2" if this information is incorrect.
30

1 (2) Your previous response has indicated to us that the telephone number
2 provided through the caller-identification is incorrect. Please enter your correct
3 telephone number at this time beginning with the area code.

4
5 (3) The caller-identification information provided to us through the telephone
6 network indicates that this telephone number is assigned to "NNNNNNNN"; please
7 **depress** "1" if this information is correct. If this information is not correct, please hold for
8 an operator.

9
10 (4) Please stand by for an operator if you desire to leave a detailed message;
11 otherwise, please hang-up and your page will be directed to the intended recipient which
12 you should now identify by depressing the keys on your telephone key pad, with the
13 area code being entered first.

14
15 (5) If no detailed message is desired, hang-up and your page will be directed
16 to area code "AAA", telephone number "PPP-EEEE". Thank you.

17
18 After this automated verification of the caller-identification number occurs, human
19 operator 85 may be made available to call-originator 11 to take a detailed alphanumeric
20 textual message. Human operator 85 keys a particular message into message buffer 81
21 prior to transmission of the message by transmitter 87, via radio frequency
22 communication link 89, to a remotely located personal communication device 91 **which**
23 **that** includes display 93. Upon receipt of the page, personal communication device 91
24 generates information for display in display 93 based at least in part on at least one of:
25 (1) information communicated via radio frequency communication link 89; or (2)
26 information contained within a database maintained within personal communication
27 device 91.

28
29 While Figures 13 and 14 have been described with reference to a numeric
30 paging network and an alphanumeric paging network, the **present invention**

1 mbodim nts may be utilized with an alphanumeric paging network which allows for
2 communication of a variety of page-originator generated messages, in a variety of
3 formats. Such messages may be provided to the portable personal communication
4 device in a variety of formats, including:

- 5
- 6 (1) textual information which include either numeric only, or alphanumeric
7 data;
- 8
- 9 (2) digitized voice or audio information which may be communicated in analog
10 form through the telephone network to the central office of the
11 alphanumeric paging network, where the information is then digitized, and
12 transmitted in a digital format which, upon reception, may be reconstructed
13 to define an analog voice or audio signal which drives an audio output
14 device resident in the personal communication device; or
- 15
- 16 (3) digitized image information, such as a video image or an iconographic
17 representation of information, which may be transmitted over the voice
18 channel of the telephone network and received at the central office of the
19 alphanumeric paging network, where it is then digitized, and transmitted
20 to the remotely located personal communication device, where the digital
21 information is reconstructed into an image which may be displayed on a
22 display resident in the personal communication device.
- 23

24 Given this variety of message-format inputs, the personal communication device
25 can provide an equally impressive array of display options. Textual input (including
26 numeric and alphanumeric characters) can be displayed in a conventional manner on a
27 simple and relatively inexpensive alphanumeric LCD display. Additionally, text **which**
28 **that** is provided as input to the personal communication device via the radio frequency
29 communication link, may be utilized with a voice synthesizer to provide synthesized
30

1 voice as an output from an audio output device resident in, or coupled to, the personal
2 communication device.

3
4 Alternatively, an alphanumeric or numeric input supplied to the personal
5 communication device may be utilized to recall one of a plurality of prestored audio
6 output messages. For example, a table may be provided which identifies particular
7 alphanumeric codes as corresponding to particular audio output messages. The binary
8 characters "1111" may correspond to the audio output message "phone home now".
9 Alternatively, a different code, such as "001," may correspond to the audio output
10 message "phone your office now". The prerecorded and predetermined audio output
11 messages may define a plurality of messages which alert the page-receiving
12 communicant that a page has been received from a particular source, and indicating a
13 particular urgency or requesting a level of diligence in response thereto.

14
15 Of course, as another option, digitized audio or voice data may be reconstituted
16 into analog format to provide an audio output corresponding almost directly to the audio
17 input provided by the page-originating communicant over the telephone lines to the
18 central office of the paging network.

19
20 Digitized images may also be transmitted to the personal communication device
21 in this manner for display on a more elaborate display, such as a personal computer-
22 type display. Finally, digitized audio may be provided as an input to the personal
23 communication device, which, in turn, may be utilized to generate a combination of
24 signals, which may include an audible signal, or a preselected image, such as an icon,
25 which may be placed on the display.

26
27 Figure 15 provides one example of the utilization of a numeric message code,
28 which is input at the personal communication device, to generate a textual message
29 which provides, to the page-receiving communicant, information **which that** allows him
30 or her to respond in an appropriate manner to the page. As is shown in Figure 15, the

1 message code number column on the left corresponds to a textual message code on
2 the right. Receipt of the "*"1" message code results in the display of the message "call
3 when you return" on the personal communication device. The receipt of the message,
4 code "*"2", results in the display of the textual message "voice mail received" on the
5 personal communication device. Receipt of the "*"3" message code results in the display
6 of the textual message "fax mail received" on the personal communication device.
7 Receipt of the "*"4" message code results in the display of the textual message
8 "electronic mail received" on the personal communication device. Receipt of the "*"5"
9 message code at the personal communication device results in the display of the textual
10 message "image data received". Receipt of the "*"6" message code results in the display
11 of the textual message "other data received" on the personal communication device.
12 Finally, receipt of the "*"911" message code at the personal communication device
13 results in the display of the textual message "call immediately".
14

15 Of course, other various preselected and predefined textual messages are
16 possible. To facilitate the use of this system, the paging network may provide a
17 synthesized-voice and keypad driven exchange between the call-originating
18 communicant and the central office of the paging network. Such an interface may be
19 utilized until the various page-originating communicants learn one or more of the most
20 useful message codes. After such message codes are learned, a user may thereafter
21 bypass the synthesized-voice menu. Preferably, the information provided to the page-
22 receiving communicant is stored in memory within the personal communication device
23 for review at a later time. Typically, the personal communication device includes
24 memory buffers sufficient to hold a selected number of messages received via the
25 paging network, and other corresponding data.
26

27 Figure 16 provides a view of one way in which the data received from the page-
28 originating communicant may be organized. Such organized data may be stored at
29 either the central office of the paging network or within the memory allocated for such
30 purpose within the personal communication device. As illustrated, a plurality of locations

1 are provided for storing caller-identification information (i.e., locations in the first
2 column), DTMF data which may be entered by the page-originating communicant by
3 utilizing the telephone handset (the second column), and caller message data which
4 may be provided by the page-originating communicant through utilization of a variety of
5 ~~massaging~~ messaging techniques, but in this example, an alphanumeric ~~massaging~~
6 messaging technique, such as that discussed above with respect to Figure 15.

7
8 Figures 17, 18, 19a, 19b, and 19c provide views of three alternative physical
9 configurations for the personal communication device ~~in accordance with the present~~
10 ~~invention~~. Personal communication device 101 of Figure 17 allows for two-way
11 communication with the paging network. Personal communication device 101 includes
12 display 103, which is preferably a display of the type utilized in portable personal
13 computers, such as notebook computers. Display 103 may be utilized to display
14 information, such as caller-identification information 105. Caller-identification information
15 105 may include an alphabetic identification of the name associated with the telephone
16 number transmitted with the caller-identification information, or may include optional
17 message 107 input by the page-originating communicant during the request for a page
18 via the telephone network.

19
20 In Figure 17 is shown telephone number data 108 extracted from data
21 shown as in Figure 22 which is displayed on display 103.

22
23 As is shown, other information 109, such as an address associated with the
24 page-initiating communicant 105, may be retrieved from a database in the memory of
25 the personal communication device and displayed along with the caller-identification
26 information on display 103.

27
28 Personal communication device 101 of Figure 17 also includes keyboard 111 and
29 graphical pointing device 113, such as a touch pen, which may be utilized to select
30 icons, menu buttons, or other items displayed in a graphical user interface. Preferably,

1 personal communication device 101 allows two-way communication, and includes a
2 cellular link to the telephone network and/or paging network. Additionally, data card 115
3 may be provided to load personal communication device 101 with a preconfigured
4 database containing information pertaining to parties with which frequent communication
5 may occur.
6

7 Figure 18 provides a view of an alternative personal communication device 117,
8 which allows only one-way communication; personal communication device 117 may
9 receive information from the paging network, but may not directly originate an outgoing
10 communication with the telephone network, or with the paging network. As is shown,
11 personal communication device 117 includes display 119, which may display
12 identification 121 of the page-originating communicant, along with his or her address.
13 Telephone field 123 is also provided for displaying a telephone number at which the
14 page-originating communicant may be reached. Furthermore, short message 125 may
15 be provided to indicate either (1) the type of information ~~which~~ that has been received
16 at the paging network, or (2) the degree of urgency attached to the particular information
17 received.
18

19 Data card 127 may be utilized to load personal communication device 117 with
20 additional database information. In the preferred embodiment of the present invention,
21 the information displayed in display 119 is based at least in-part upon caller-
22 identification information, and at least in-part upon information recalled from the
23 database resident in the memory of personal communication device 117 or within data
24 card 127. As is shown in Figure 18, keyboard 129 is provided to allow the page-
25 receiving communicant a means to enter or manipulate data within the database.
26

27 A third, and still different, embodiment of the present invention is depicted in
28 Figures 19a, 19b, and 19c. Figure 19a provides a view of the bottom portion of personal
29 communication device 131. Note that audio output device 133 is provided. Mechanical
30 coupler 135 provides a means for acoustically coupling personal communication device

1 131 to any telephone equipment, particularly the mouthpiece of a telephone handset,
2 against which audio output device 133 is disposed.

3
4 **In Figure 19a data connector 134 and battery cover 132 is shown.**
5

6 Figure 19b provides a side view of personal communication device 131 of Figure
7 19a. Note that ~~power switch~~ **RJ11 telephone jack** power switch 137 is provided to
8 ~~switch the power~~ **connect the telephone line** to personal communication device 131
9 ~~off and on.~~

10
11 Figure 19c provides a view of the top portion of personal communication device
12 131. Display 139 is provided to receive and display numeric data, alphanumeric data,
13 and images. A plurality of icons 141 are provided about display 139, each of which is
14 dedicated for the communication of particular information. For example, icon 143 is
15 representative of a clock, and may be utilized to indicate to the page-receiving
16 communicant that time-sensitive information has been communicated to the paging
17 network. For an alternative example, icon 145, which depicts a telephone, is provided to
18 indicate to the page-receiving communicant that a telephone message has been
19 received by the paging network. A variety of other dedicated iconographic
20 representations are provided about display 139, each of which is dedicated to
21 communicate particular, predefined information to the page-receiving communicant
22 pertaining to information deposited at the paging network.

23
24 The device depicted in Figures 19a, 19b, and 19c allows only the receipt of
25 information from the paging network, and utilizes the dedicated icons to communicate
26 particular types of information to the page-receiving communicant. This allows the small
27 display 139 to be utilized for less-routine types of information.

28
29 Figure 20 provides a block diagram view of portable communication device 201.
30 As is shown, portable communication device 201 includes central processing unit 203,

1 which preferably comprises a microprocessor. The microprocessor of central processing
2 unit 203 interacts with the plurality of hardware and software components. Key pad input
3 unit 231 communicates with central processing unit 203 to allow for the operator to
4 depress particular keys on a keyboard thereby inputting data into portable
5 communication device 201. Receiver unit 233 is utilized to receive radio frequency
6 communication from the paging central office. Decoder unit 235 is utilized to decode
7 radio frequency signals received from receiver unit 233. Decoder unit 235
8 communicates with central processing unit 203 to power-up central processing unit 203
9 when a page notification intended for portable communication device 201 is received at
10 receiver unit 233. ID-ROM 237 is utilized to record in memory a particular numeric or
11 alphanumeric identifying information ~~which~~ that is provided to code each particular
12 portable communication device in a paging network so that it is responsive to a
13 particular radio frequency transmission. ID-ROM 237 records the particular identification
14 code assigned to that particular communication device.

15
16 Central processing unit 203 communicates through display buffer 205, in a
17 conventional manner, to place numeric data, alphanumeric data, and images, such as
18 icons, on display unit 207. Light-emitting-diode 211 is provided to provide a flashing
19 indication of the receipt of a page. LED driver 209 is positioned intermediate central
20 processing unit 203 and LED 211, to allow central processing unit 203 to drive LED 211
21 in a variety of flashing patterns. Sound-signal generating unit 213 is coupled between
22 central processing unit 203 and audio output device 215. Central processing unit 203
23 provides binary control signals to sound-signal generating unit 213 ~~which~~ that result in
24 the output of a particular tone, at a particular volume and a particular frequency. DTMF
25 signal generating unit 217 is coupled between central processing unit 203 and audio
26 output device 215. It is utilized, when desired, to generate dialing tones which may be
27 communicated through audio output device 215 to the mouthpiece of a telephone to
28 place a call utilizing the telephone network. Buffer 219 is coupled to central processing
29 unit 203 and DTMF signal generating unit 217, and is provided for queuing of DTMF
30 generating signals. Voice processing unit 221 is coupled to central processing unit 203

1 to allow the analog-to-digital and digital-to-analog conversion of speech and other audio
2 input 102 of Figure 7 and 102 of Figure 9c or output 133 of Figur 7 and 133 of
3 Figur 9a.
4

5 Several housekeeping functional blocks are also provided in the view of Figure
6 20. RAM 229 is provided as a memory cache. In the preferred embodiment of the
7 present invention, a database including a plurality of fields ~~which~~ that identify actual or
8 potential communicants by name, address, and appropriate telephone and facsimile
9 numbers, is resident within RAM 229. Character generator 225 communicates with
10 central processing unit 203 to generate particular alphanumeric characters in response
11 to commands from central processing unit 203. MAC/PC download memory 227
12 operates a data exchange buffer to allow for the communication of data between central
13 processing unit 203 and personal computer 239. Personal computer 239 may be utilized
14 to store in memory the database ~~which~~ that is intermittently downloaded through
15 MAC/PC download memory 227 for storage in RAM 229. As is shown in Figure 20,
16 personal computer 239 is coupled in a node mail network which allows for voice mail
17 service (VMS), fax mail service (FMS), electronic mail service (EMS), paging system
18 (PS), images, and connection to information services.
19

20 Figure 21 provides a flowchart representation of the technique in accordance with
21 ~~the present invention~~ an embodiment for communicating information between a
22 page-originating communicant and a page-receiving communicant. The process starts
23 at software block 251, wherein the page-originating communicant (user) utilizes the
24 telephone network to access an automated data entry system. As discussed above,
25 upon establishment of a voice circuit between the telephone unit utilized by the page-
26 originating communicant and the paging center, the caller identification information, if
27 any exists, is automatically transferred to the central office, where it is decoded and
28 preferably utilized in accordance with software block 255 in a recorded menu exchange,
29 wherein the information is verified and/or corrected and/or supplemented.
30

1
2 In software block 257, the page-originating communicant enters optional data.
3 This optional data may be numeric data, alphanumeric data, digitized speech, facsimile
4 messages, or images. In accordance with software block 259, the paging system
5 identifies when the data entry has been completed, and confirms the data entry in
6 accordance with software block 261. In accordance with software block 265, the paging
7 network verifies the data, preferably by displaying it or otherwise making it available to
8 the page-originating communicant. In accordance with software block 263, the page-
9 originating communicant hangs-up, and then, in accordance with software block 267,
10 the data, including the caller-identification information and any optional or other data
11 attached to the page information, is transmitted via radio frequency communication link
12 269 to portable communication device 271.
13

14 The most common application of ~~the present invention~~ an embodiment
15 requires that the page-originating communicant enter either numeric or alphanumeric
16 data which is identified with the caller-identification information. Upon receipt by portable
17 communication device 271, at least one of either the numeric caller-identification
18 information, or the alphabetic caller-identification information, or the optional data
19 entered by the page-originating communicant is compared to one or more data fields in
20 a database which is maintained within memory (preferably RAM 229 of Figure 20) of
21 portable communication device 271 (of Figure 21).
22

23 Figure 22 depicts one example of such a database. As shown, there are five data
24 fields associated with each entry: a telephone number field, a fax number field, a name
25 field, an "other data" field (preferably utilized for addresses) and a notification type and
26 intensity field.
27

28 In one particular embodiment of the present invention, the numeric or
29 alphanumeric data entered by the page-requesting communicant is compared to an
30 appropriate data field. For example, if the page-originating communicant entered

1 numeric telephone data as part of the page request, this numeric telephone data is
2 compared to numeric data fields **which that** are representative of telephone numbers in
3 order to determine if one or more matches exist. If a match exists, it is probable that the
4 page-requesting communicant is the entity identified in an associated data field. For
5 example, if a telephone number is entered in the page request which corresponds to the
6 first number in the database, it is highly likely that Mr. Hashimoto, the first name in the
7 database, is the page-originating communicant.

8
9 The caller-identification information is also compared with one or more data fields
10 in the database. In one specific embodiment, numeric telephone data from the caller-
11 identification information is compared to numeric fields which represent telephone
12 numbers, in order to determine if one or more matches exists. If no matches exist, it is
13 highly likely that Mr. Hashimoto is calling from a telephone which is not ordinarily
14 associated with him. The page-receiving communicant can then decide to either return
15 the call immediately, or defer it to a later time. In this event, the page-receiving
16 communicant knows that Mr. Hashimoto is the likely page-originating communicant, and
17 that he can be reached at this particular time at the number identified in the caller-
18 identification information. In this manner, a protocol can be devised which automatically
19 access one or more of: (1) numeric or alphabetic characters that are located within the
20 caller-identification signal; and/or (2) numeric or alphanumeric characters entered by the
21 page-originating communicant into one or more data fields, in order to identify the likely
22 identity of the page-originating communicant, and to further to identify whether the likely
23 page-originating communicant is calling from a familiar telephone or an unfamiliar
24 telephone.

25
26 In instances where the caller-identification information fails to produce a match,
27 the page-receiving communicant may be provided with a particular type of notification to
28 indicate that a person is contacting him or her, or attempting to contact him or her, and
29 such a person is not listed within the database at this time. This may prompt the owner
30 of the personal communication device to utilize a key pad or alternative means to enter

1 that entity upon return of the telephone call.

2
3 The notification type field is interesting, insofar as it is user configurable, allowing
4 the page-receiving communicant to identify a particular type, or subtype, of paging
5 notification with one or more particular likely communicants. For example, LED displays
6 from LED 201 (of Figure 20) may be utilized to identify work associates, while audio
7 tones emitted from audio output device 215 (of Figure 20) may be utilized to indicate
8 that friends or family are attempting to notify the page-receiving communicant.

9
10 Preferably, the user may establish intensity levels or sequence levels for
11 particular types of page alert notifications. For example, the notation "VI" indicates a
12 visual indication with a high intensity. In contrast, the notation "BL" may denote a beep
13 (that is, audio output) of a low intensity. Still, in further contrast, the notation "T" may
14 identify that, for this particular potential communicant, only textual messages should be
15 utilized to identify receipt of the page. In this hierarchical structure, the entity which is
16 assigned the "T" notification type and intensity, is a fairly low priority potential
17 communicant, while the communicant which has the "VI" notification type and intensity
18 indicator identified therewith is a relatively high priority communicant. In this manner,
19 the page-receiving communicant may be able to prioritize his or her return phone call
20 activities.

21
22 A variety of mechanisms by which the owner of the portable communication
23 device may enter data, revise data, or review data are depicted graphically in Figures
24 23, 24, 25, and 26.

25
26 Figure 23 depicts a portable communication device with a detachable input
27 interface, such as keyboard 301, which releasably connects through connector 303 to
28 paging receiver 307. Display 305 is also included in paging receiver 307. Paging
29 receiver 307 also includes pager operation switches 309. The owner of this paging
30 device may selectively releasably connect keyboard 301 to paging receiver 307, and

1 then depress one or more keys on keyboard 301 to enter data at a cursor location which
2 is presented within display 305. This device stands in sharp contrast with the device of
3 Figure 24, which includes keyboard 311 that is substantially permanently coupled to
4 paging receiver 313. Paging receiver 313 also includes display 315. Paging receiver 313
5 preferably includes pager operation switches 317. The operator may utilize keyboard
6 311 to enter or modify data within display 315. More particularly, the operator may utilize
7 keyboard 311 to add or modify data contained in the plurality of fields of the database
8 maintained within the memory of the portable communication device.

9
10 Figure 25 provides yet another alternative embodiment contemplated ~~under the~~
11 ~~present invention~~. As is shown, paging receiver 321 is provided, and can be selectively
12 and releasably coupled to a personal computer 327 via a serial hardwire line, a parallel
13 hardwire line, an infrared link, or a radio frequency link. Personal computer 327 may be
14 utilized to create and maintain the database with a plurality of data fields, including such
15 fields as communicant's name, communicant's telephone number, communicant's fax
16 number, communicant's address, and a field containing an operator-selectable
17 notification attribute or type. Such data may be intermittently transferred between
18 personal computer 327 and paging receiver 321, and maintained within a random
19 access memory within paging receiver 321.

20
21 Paging receiver 321 includes display 323 and pager operation switches 319,
22 which allow for conventional paging functions. In this embodiment, the data contained
23 within the database of paging receiver 319 is periodically refreshed by the owner by
24 conducting memory dumps from personal computer 327 to paging receiver 321. Upon
25 receipt of a page notification, the caller identification information and/or optional data
26 input by the page-originating communicant is compared with one or more fields of the
27 database contained within the memory of paging receiver 321.

28
29 Figure 26 provides a view of yet another alternative embodiment contemplated in
30 the present invention. In this system, a very inexpensive paging unit, with limited display

1 capabilities, includes a memory for the receipt of the database with a plurality of data
2 fields including communicant's names, communicant's phone numbers, communicant's
3 fax numbers, communicant's addresses, and any user-selected notification attribute
4 identified to that particular communicant. The communication is periodically dumped in a
5 methodical fashion from personal computer 329 via wireless infrared communicator 331
6 to portable paging receiver 333.

7
8 Figures 27 and 28 provide block diagram views of the software and hardware
9 components which facilitate the communication of the database between a computing
10 device, such as a personal computer, and the portable communication device. In
11 accordance with Figure 27, the personal computing device 401 includes operating
12 system 403, desktop application programs 405, data files 407, and intellect
13 communication software 409 which is resident in memory within the computing device,
14 and which is utilized in the transfer of information between computing device 401 and the
15 portable communication device 413, which includes download memory 419 which is
16 adapted to receive the database information. As is shown, the portable communication
17 device 413 may be connected via either hardware communication link 411, local infrared
18 communication 415, or remote telephone input 417. In Figure 28, a laptop architecture
19 is displayed for laptop 421, which includes operating system 423, personal information
20 manager 425, data files 427, PCMCIA interface 429 and communication software 431
21 which facilitates the transfer of information from the memory of the laptop computing
22 device 421 to the portable computing device 433.

23
24 Figure 29 depicts yet another technique for entering and modifying data which is
25 present within the database present within the memory of the portable communication
26 device. As is shown, the page-receiving communicant inputs data on a physical form
27 435, which identifies communicant's names, communicant's telephone numbers,
28 communicant's fax numbers, communicant's addresses, and any associated notification
29 attribute for that particular communicant. Alternatively, information is provided via an
30 automated user input request system ~~439~~ 437 which preferably utilizes either a portable

1 computing device, a stationary computing device, or a telephone to input data which is
2 to be communicated via radio common carrier 439 to paging transmitter 441, which
3 communicates via radio frequency communication link 443 to paging receiver 445. The
4 techniques for modifying the database are depicted in flowchart form in Figure 30. The
5 process starts at software block 451, and continues at software blocks 452, 453, and
6 454, wherein data is either manually entered or automatically entered and routed
7 through software block 453. In accordance with software block 455, data is processed at
8 a radio common carrier, and transmitted to software block 457, where it is determined
9 whether local programming is required, if so, the process continues at software block
10 459; if not, the process continues at software block 460. In either event, data is
11 communicated to portable communication device 461 for creation, supplementation, or
12 modification of the database contained in memory in portable communication device
13 461. In accordance with the flowchart of Figure 30, software block ~~465~~ requires that
14 message code cards be printed, and delivered in accordance with software block 458 to
15 a dealer or customer. The software steps associated with the utilization of these code
16 cards is depicted in flowchart form in Figure 31. In accordance with software block 465,
17 the page customer receives the printed message card along with the pager at the
18 beginning of pager service. In accordance with software block 467, the page customer
19 distributes the message cards to callers, and instructs them to fill the data fields in the
20 cards. In the flow of Figure 31, the cards are distributed to callers A, B, and C in
21 accordance with software blocks 469, 471, and 473. The callers consult their message
22 cards, and enter the code data, and transmit it through telephone office 477 to radio
23 common carrier 479, which forwards it to paging transmitter 41, which establishes a
24 radio frequency link with portable communication device 43.

25
26 Figures 32 and 33 depict two types of standardized message code cards. The
27 card of Figure 32, the call-receiving communicant's pager ID number 605 is identified,
28 along with the telephone number for the paging center 603. Then, a plurality of numeric
29 or alphanumeric codes are provided in a field 601, with an area to the right for providing
30 numeric or alphanumeric messages 607 which correspond to the numeric or

1 alphanumeric codes. For example, the numeric value "0" may corresponds to the
2 answer "no", while the numeric value "1" may correspond to the answer "yes". In the
3 view of Figure 33, an alternative standardized message code card is provided, which
4 provides alphanumeric or numeric characters with alphabetic textual messages. For
5 example, the numeric code "11" corresponds to the message "pick up the kids".
6 Additionally, the potential communicant can enter phone data and fax data in fields
7 which are dedicated for that purpose. This information is entered on a wide number of
8 cards by people who are likely to communicate with the paging subscriber. They are
9 mailed in or entered in by the potential communicants, to form a database which is
10 periodically communicated to the page receiving apparatus.

11
12 While the invention has been shown in only one of its forms, it is not thus limited
13 but is susceptible to various changes and modifications without departing from the spirit
14 thereof.